

(Letter Memor. B.)

TIPTON  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(W. K. DUNSCOMBE, M.D., D.P.H.)

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1937





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R. A. HANCOCK.	T. DARBY.
W. J. W. GEORGE.	J. E. SALTER.
F. SNEYD.	and the following not being
A. E. BOLTON, C.C.	members of the Council, viz :
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A. F. WELCH, J.P.	Miss E. G. GARLICK.
	Mrs. L. M. HANCOCK.
	Mrs. H. NEALE.



**STAFF.**

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	W. K. DUNSCOMBE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health ... ..	E. P. McWHIRTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Consultant and Visiting Ob- stetrician ... ..	J. S. M. CONNELL, F.R.C.S.
Ophthalmic Surgeon ...	F. N. N. ROBERTS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Chief Sanitary Inspector ...	*G. H. ACTON, M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	*G. R. HOUGHTON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. *J. S. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A.
Veterinary Officer and Meat Inspector (Palethorpes Ltd.)	MAJOR R. L. GREEN, M.R.C.V.S.
Nurse Superintendent ...	\$.†.‡. MISS M. E. SLACK.
Health Visitors ... ..	\$.†.‡.Mrs. A. C. KING. \$.†.‡.Mrs. E. L. CONNELL. \$.†.‡.Miss M. M. BYARD. \$.†.‡.Miss L. A. POWELL.
Dental Nurse ... ..	\$.†.Miss C. READ.

**CLERICAL STAFF.**

Public Health Dept. ...	W. J. HEMMINGS. Miss B. HEMMING. Miss M. BREAT . Miss D. WATTS.
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\* Qualified Meat Inspectors.

\$. State Registered Nurse.

†. State Certified Midwife.

‡. Health Visitor's Certificate.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
TIPTON.

MAY, 1938.

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Public Health Committee.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting the Annual Report for 1937, I should like first of all to pay a tribute to the work of my predecessor, Dr. A. E. Wall. His efforts to improve the lot of the people of this town have been unceasing and particularly in Housing and Maternity and Child Welfare he has set an example and a standard which will not be easy to equal.

The year under review has been notable for several important events; the new high record for the demolition of slum houses, the assumption of the duties of a Local Supervising Authority by this Council and the consequent necessity for the submission of a scheme for a domiciliary midwifery service to the Minister, the extension of the scheme for the better nourishment of mothers and children and the provision of dentures for expectant and nursing mothers, all constitute achievements of which this town having regard to the relatively high rates and to the smallness of the sum which is produced by a penny rate, may well be proud.

However, as there is no finality in Medicine I must remind all those responsible that there are still considerable gaps left. In the first place, slum clearance must still go on ; far too many of those disastrous relics of the industrial revolution known as back-to-back houses still remain and it is obvious that removal of such blemishes must continue to occupy first place in this department's programme for some years and most certainly will *not* be finished by the end of 1938.

The problem of overcrowding apart from that reduced by slum clearance requires to be tackled energetically as not a day passes but what there is ample evidence of the urgency and necessity for its relief. The provision of houses at rents which the occupants can afford to pay is a paramount necessity though this bristles with difficulties. It is essential that a satisfactory



town planning scheme be instituted as soon as possible. Proper isolation hospital accommodation is a matter of great urgency, a steam disinfecter is most desirable, and more careful control over the activities of occupants of Council houses is required.

The opening of the new Clinic in Horseley Road while providing a much more satisfactory place for the numerous activities with which it is associated has had the unfortunate result of almost completely dividing the department into two. In an area such as this centralisation of staff is fundamental for efficient administration and the matter is so important that measures for remedying such an unsatisfactory state of affairs should be proceeded with as soon as possible.

It is a pleasure to record the help given in the National Health Campaign by the Central Council for Health Education. Their posters and bookmarks created a deep impression and were a valuable contribution to making the various Health Services more widely known.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest, the staffs of other departments for their assistance, and the medical practitioners of this area for their very willing help ; the co-optation of a representative of the local practitioners to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee which will take place in 1938 will serve to strengthen the cordial relations which already exist between the medical men in the town and this department. But especially am I grateful to the staff of this department. The Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Dr. McWhirter has been of immense help and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Acton has been invaluable. The other members have also gone out of their way to make the path of a newcomer smoother than could have been the case and it is greatly appreciated.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. K. DUNSCOMBE,

Medical Officer of Health.



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# Part I. Vital Statistics

AREA (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	2,167
POPULATION (census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	35,814
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF THE POPULATION MID-YEAR, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	36,670
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (Census 1931)						7,869
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES 31st DECEMBER, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	9,000
RATEABLE VALUE (1st April, 1937)	...	...	...	...	...	£125,182
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	...	...	...	...	...	£481

Live Births :		Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	...	781	402	379	Birth Rate per
Illegitimate	...	20	10	10	1000 of the esti-
					mated resident
					population 21.84.

Still-births	...	...	25	17	8	Rate per 1000
						total (live and still)
						births—30.26.

Deaths	...	...	473	254	219	Death Rate per
						1000 of the esti-
						mated resident
						population 12.98.
						(Standardised
						15.21).

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—						Rate per 1000
Pueperal Sepsis...	...	...	...	1		total births (live
Other Puerperal causes			...	1		and still)—2.3.
Total	...	...	...	...	2	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1000 live births	...	78.65
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	76.82
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	150.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 52

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 4

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 4

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... 8



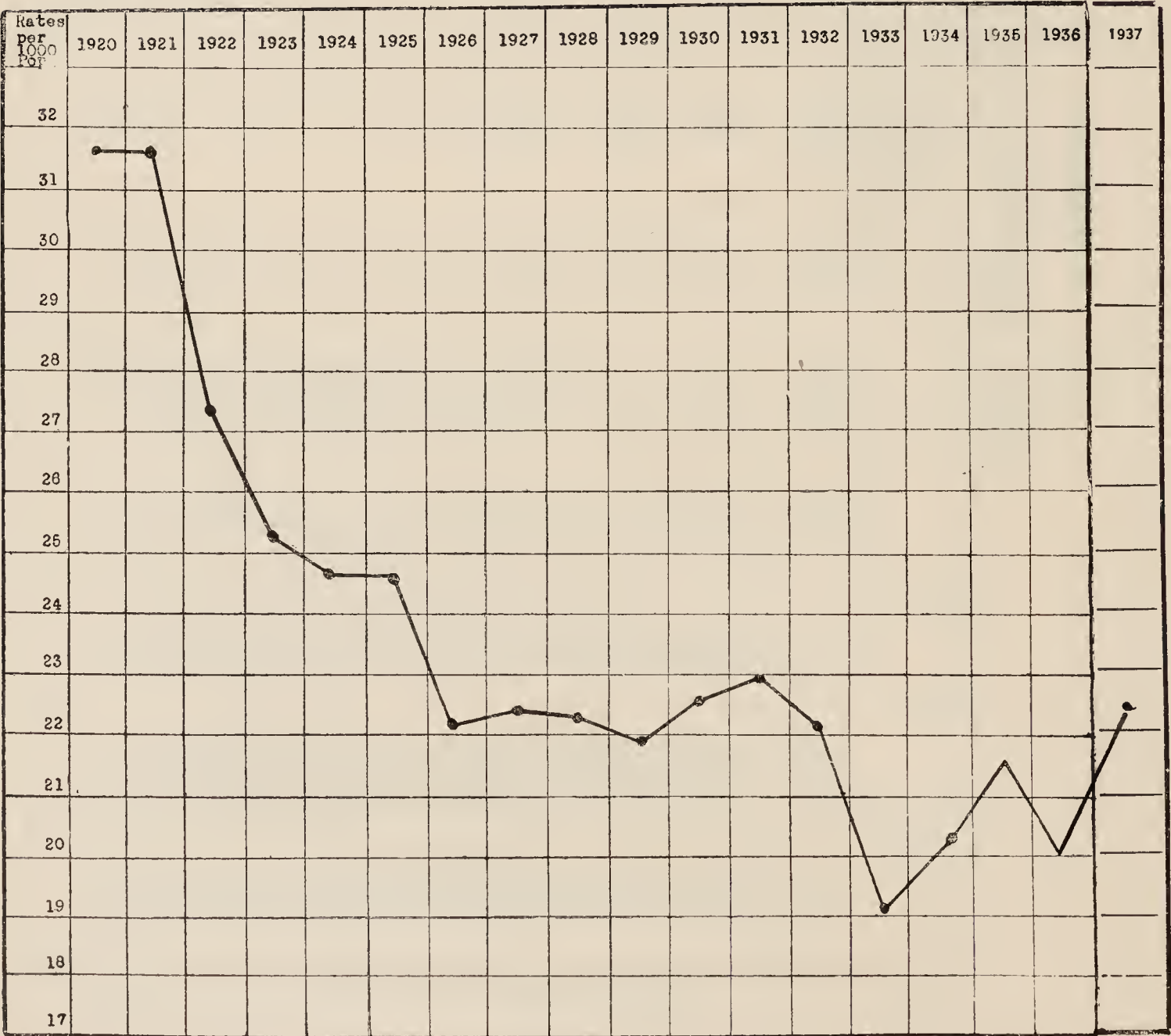
**TABLE I.**  
**VITAL STATISTICS 1911—1937.**

Year. (1)	Popu- lation. (2)	Area in Acres. (3)	Persons per Acre. (4)	Birth Rate. (5)	Crude Death Rate. (6)	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births. (7)	Diarrhoea and Enteritis Death Rate. (8)	Enteric Fever Death Rate (9)	Zymotic Death Rate. 10)	Tuberculosis (all forms) Death Rate. (11)
1911	31763	2171	14.6	30.6	17.0	169	2.6	.06	1.93	.83
1912	32000	2171	14.7	35.7	15.3	112	.75	.09	.12	1.12
1913	32407	2171	14.6	37.1	16.5	134	.38	.03	2.77	1.12
1914	32407	2171	14.6	35.7	16.3	125	1.2	.12	1.06	.91
1915	32311	2171	14.7	30.7	17.7	139	1.08	1.61	2.96	.91
1920	33852	2171	15.6	31.7	14.0	85	.47	.06	.21	.70
1921	34131	2171	15.7	30.0	13.8	112	.87	.08	.81	.71
1922	35480	2171	16.3	27.3	14.9	106	.22	.01	.91	.90
1923	35450	2171	16.3	25.3	12.9	93	.45	.08	.98	.73
1924	36930	2171	17.0	24.7	11.3	85	.18	.05	.39	.78
1925	36900	2171	17.0	24.7	14.3	127	.54	.02	.73	1.22
1926	36610	2171	16.8	22.1	10.7	92	.30	—	.07	1.08
1927	37300	2171	17.2	22.6	13.3	109	.27	—	.53	1.20
1928	36950	2171	17.0	22.3	10.7	68	.16	0.8	.28	.89
1929	36400	2171	16.7	21.9	14.3	85	.13	.02	.58	1.15
1930	36310	2171	16.7	22.6	12.5	87	.29	—	.91	1.02
1931	35814	2171	16.4	22.9	11.9	69	.22	—	.14	1.12
1932	36440	2171	16.8	22.1	13.0	103	.32	—	.58	1.15
1933	36610	2171	16.8	19.0	12.0	91	.30	—	.08	1.10
1934	36440	2167	16.8	20.1	11.5	67	.08	—	.59	.87
1935	36410	2167	16.8	21.6	12.9	63	.08	—	.54	1.31
1936	36120	2167	16.2	20.06	12.0	76	.16	—	.44	.63
1937	36670	2167	16.9	22.49	12.89	76	.21	—	.62	.89

TABLE II.  
BIRTH RATES FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

Year.	TIPTON.		Birth-rate for England and Wales.
	No. of births	Birth Rate.	
1928	825	22.3	16.7
1929	796	21.86	16.3
1930	823	22.6	16.3
1931	833	22.9	15.8
1932	807	22.1	15.3
1933	698	19.0	14.4
1934	762	20.14	14.8
1935	788	21.64	14.7
1936	747	20.60	14.68
1937	826	22.49	14.69

CHART SHOWING BIRTH RATES FOR TIPTON SINCE 1920





**BIRTHS.**

The number of live births registered throughout the year was 801 (males 412, females 389). The number of illegitimate live births was 20 or 2.5% of the total births.

**DEATHS.**

The total number of registered deaths for the district was 473 and of these 132 were registered outside the district.

**TABLE III.****DEATH RATES FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS**

Year.	TIPTON.		Death Rate for England and and Wales.
	No. of deaths.	Death Rate. (Crude)	
1928	395	10.7	11.7
1929	523	14.3	13.4
1930	457	12.5	11.4
1931	422	11.9	12.3
1932	474	13.0	12.0
1933	441	12.0	12.3
1934	418	11.4	11.8
1935	470	12.9	11.7
1936	432	*12.0	12.1
1937	473	*12.89	12.4

\* Areal Comparability Factor = 1.18

**HEART DISEASE.**

Heart Disease again had the highest number of deaths. The number was 83 an increase of 2 on last year's figure, giving a death rate of 2.2 per 1000, population.

**CANCER.**

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer was 52 which gives a death rate of 1.4 per 1000 population. The corresponding figures for 1936 were 36 deaths and a rate of 1.00 per 1000.

**PNEUMONIA.**

There were 52 deaths from this disease giving the same rate per 1000 population as for Cancer.



The following Table gives detailed causes of death :—

**TABLE IV.**

Disease.	Males.	Females	Total.
Measles ... ..	2	2	4
Whooping Cough...	—	4	4
Diphtheria ... ..	1	6	7
Influenza... ..	15	4	19
Enceph. Lethargica ... ..	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	16	14	30
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	3	—	3
G.P.I. tabes, &c. ... ..	1	1	2
Cancer ... ..	28	24	52
Diabetes ... ..	4	2	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ... ..	13	16	29
Heart Disease ... ..	36	47	83
Other circulatory diseases ...	10	4	14
Bronchitis ... ..	14	11	25
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	31	21	52
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	1	2
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	1	1	2
Diarrhœa (under two years) ...	5	3	8
Appendicitis ... ..	3	—	3
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	—	1	1
Other Liver Diseases ... ..	1	2	3
Other Digestive Diseases... ..	4	2	6
Acute and chronic Nephritis ...	2	1	3
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	1	1
Other puerperal diseases ....	—	1	1
Congenital debility, Premature Birth, etc. ... ..	13	15	28
Senility ... ..	13	23	36
Suicide ... ..	1	—	1
Other violence ... ..	16	4	20
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	18	8	26
Total ... ..	254	219	473

TABLE V.

Birth rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937.

England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	125 County Boro's. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin- istrative County	Tipton
Rates per 1000 Population					
<b>Births :—</b>					
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3	21.84
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54	.68
<b>Deaths :—</b>					
All causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3	12.89
Typhoid & Para- typhoid fevers	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.10
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.10
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.19
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38	0.51
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51	0.57
<b>Notifications :—</b>					
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09	1.03
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93	2.67
Enteric Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05	—
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44	0.43
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18	3.13
Rates per 1000 Live births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60.	78.6
Deaths from Diarr- hoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0	9.9
<b>Maternal Mortality :</b>					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.97	Not available			1.24
Others	2.26				1.24
Total	3.23				2.48
Rates per 1000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
<b>Maternal Mortality :</b>					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.94	Not available			1.21
Others	2.17				1.21
Total	3.11				2.42
<b>Notifications :</b>					
Puerperal Fever	13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15	4.84
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.34	

# **PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH 1928-1937.**

**TABLE VI.**

Disease.	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Cancer ... ..	36	48	37	36	38	50	46	48	36	52
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	27	26	18	23	23	31	18	28	36	29
Heart Disease ...	44	62	63	67	70	71	62	76	81	83
Bronchitis ...	22	38	18	24	30	27	18	29	28	25
Influenza . ....	7	19	11	12	10	19	12	12	4	19
Pneumonia (all forms)	38	74	70	64	51	41	34	38	41	52
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	4	4	4	5	8	7	3	3	5	2
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ... ..	6	5	10	8	12	11	3	5	6	8
Congenital causes ...	30	33	24	25	33	26	29	20	25	28
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis ...	27	36	30	35	34	37	29	42	19	28

132 deaths were registered outside the district and the following table shows the various Institutions at which death occurred.

Dudley Guest Hospital ... ..	32
Dudley Poor Law Infirmary ... ..	29
West Bromwich Hospitals ... ..	29
Birmingham Hospitals ... ..	8
Mental Hospitals ... ..	11
Sanatoria ... ..	6
At Other Institutions ... ..	8
Not in Institutions ... ..	9

**Total Deaths—Age Groups.**

	Males	Females	Total
Under one year ... ..	34	29	63
1 and under 2 years ... ..	3	9	12
2 " " 5 " ... ..	7	5	12
5 " " 10 " ... ..	8	6	14
10 " " 15 " ... ..	3	4	7
15 " " 20 " ... ..	3	8	11
20 " " 25 " ... ..	3	6	9
25 " " 30 " ... ..	8	4	12
30 " " 45 " ... ..	30	12	42
45 " " 55 " ... ..	20	23	43
55 " " 65 " ... ..	43	30	73
65 " " 75 " ... ..	56	41	97
75 and upwards ... ..	36	42	78
Total ... ..	254	219	473



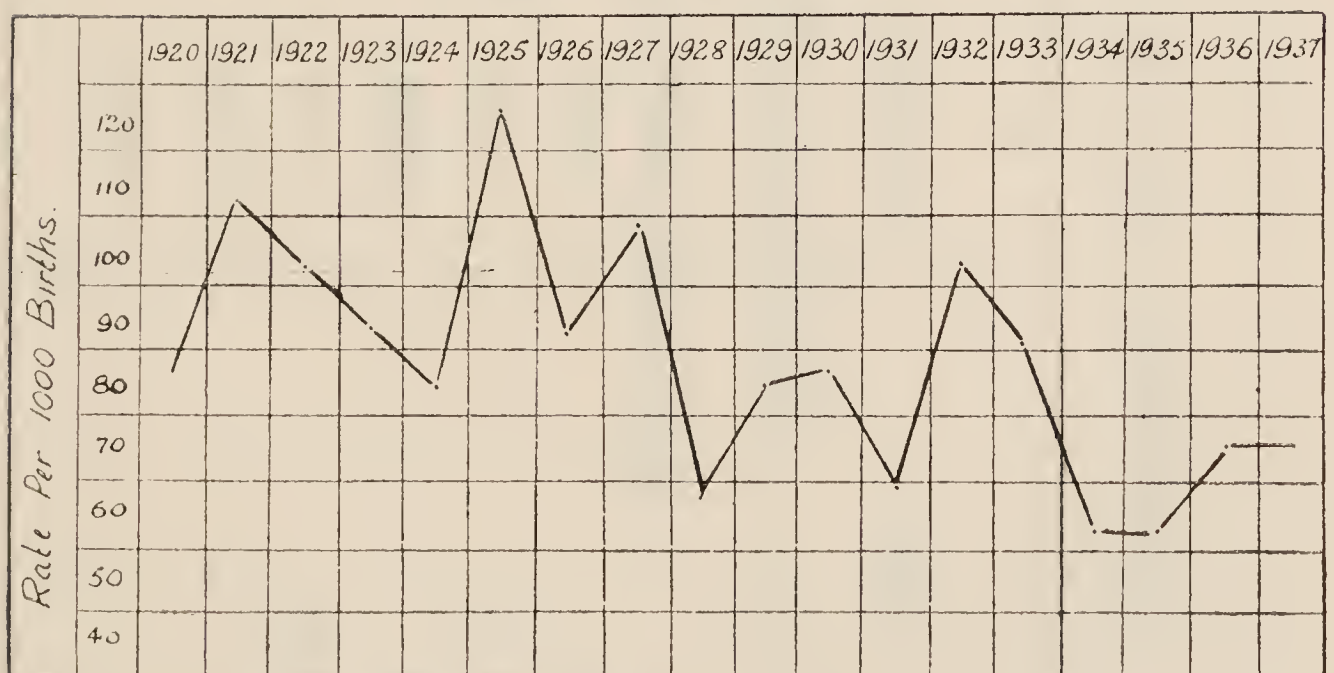
**TABLE VII.**  
**INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1937.**

Causes of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under One Month	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
All causes ....	19	3	3	3	28	6	12	10	7	63
Smallpox ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Chicken-pox ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Measles ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Whooping Cough ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Diphtheria ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Erysipelas ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tuberculosis (other forms) ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Meningitis (not tuberculous) ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	2
Convulsions ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	2
Laryngitis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Bronchitis ....	....	....	....	1	1	2	1	2	1	7
Pneumonia (all forms) ....	....	....	....	....	....	2	5	5	5	17
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	....	....	4
Gastritis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Syphilis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Rickets ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Suffocation ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Injury at Birth ....	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	....	....	1
Atelectasis ....	1	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	1
Congenital Malformation ....	3	....	....	....	3	....	....	....	....	3
Prematurity ....	6	....	....	1	7	....	....	....	....	7
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus ....	5	3	3	....	11	1	....	....	....	12
Influenza ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Icterus Neonatorum ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Other causes ....	4	....	....	....	4	1	....	....	....	5

**TABLE VIII.**  
**INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.**

Year.	TIPTON.			England and Wales Rate per 1000 births
	Births.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 births	
1928	826	56	68	65
1929	795	68	85	74
1930	823	72	87	60
1931	833	58	69	66
1932	807	83	103	65
1933	698	64	91	64
1934	762	49	67	59
1935	897	50	63	57
1936	747	57	76	59
1937	826	63	76	58

**CHART SHOWING INFANTILE MORTALITY  
RATES SINCE 1920.**



# TABLE IX.

Table showing the comparative birth and mortality rates of neighbouring Towns during 1937.

Town.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate. (Crude)	Infantile Mortality.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis per 1000. Population	
					Respiratory.	Other T.B. Diseases.
Dudley     ...     ...	61,140	19.69	12.20	79.58	0.79	0.049
Oldbury     ...     ...	44,450	18.94	11.09	65.32	0.56	0.24
Brierley Hill     ...     ...	43,550	18.80	11.96	64.71	0.83	0.14
TIPTON     ...     ...	<b>36,670</b>	<b>22.49</b>	<b>12.89</b>	<b>76.27</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.08</b>
Wednesbury     ...     ...	33,130	18.1	12.5	61.5	0.7	0.06
Bilston     ...     ...	31,400	19.2	12.5	68.11	0.54	0.13
Coseley     ...     ...	28,120	20.8	11.13	63.75	0.53	0.00



**Part II.**

**Prevalence of and Control over  
Infectious and other Diseases**

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The frequency of certain notifiable diseases is given in the table below. It will be seen that the incidence of Diphtheria again shows an increase, especially among school children. This town is by no means alone in showing an increase on the previous year's figures as with the exception of London and certain rural areas the whole country has been affected in a similar way—again mostly among school children.

Previously it has been accepted that the greatest incidence and fatality is among the children of pre-school age. Now this is shifting to about the ages 6—8 years. The remedy is obvious—immunisation at entrance to school.

**Immunisation.**—This was commenced some time ago but up to the present it has not been as popular as it should be. The Public must realise that if they wish to assist in reducing the incidence of Diphtheria here with its burden of illness and expense both public and private, they must act as propagandists for immunisation. The Birmingham and Manchester figures speak for themselves, and only the most hidebound or ostrichlike will ignore them. But as usual there is more noise made over one child that may have had some illness that may have possibly been related to the process of immunisation, than of the many thousands who have been protected !

**Hospital Facilities.** It must be said at once that these are most unsatisfactory. Through the courtesy of the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of West Bromwich to whom I wish to tender my very hearty thanks for his assistance, for some years we have been able to get cases to the Isolation Hospital there, often at considerable inconvenience to the hospital. Sometimes, however, no bed has been available and then it has been necessary to try other hospitals such as Walsall, Wolverhampton, Bilston, Birmingham, etc. It is obvious that these areas have their own problems and it says much for their spirit of co-operation that they have admitted patients whenever they have had a vacant bed. Even then some serious cases have had to be nursed at home.

These remarks apply particularly to Diphtheria as the serious nature of the disease and the absolute necessity of *all* cases being nursed in hospital are not realised. To have to nurse a case at home in a badly overcrowded house with several other children in the family as has occurred in some instances is a complete farce as far as prevention is concerned, as this department can then only urge the necessity for the temporary protection of the other children by the administration of a suitable dose of anti-toxin. The importance of immunisation to prevent such cases arising at all is therefore axiomatic.

Tipton is one of the authorities in a scheme for the establishment of a joint isolation hospital, but so far nothing has been done except to agree that the number of beds originally suggested when the scheme was first mooted should be reduced. At present this figure is quoted at 130 beds for a population of more than a quarter of a million ! The generally accepted standard is 1 per 1000 population and the very least that should be considered is 200 beds. If the figure mentioned above is adhered to the hospital is out of date before it has even been designed. (See Massey, A. and Ferguson J. "Public Health." May 1938).

It is essential for lay persons to realise that the present day conception of an isolation hospital differs materially from past times. Then it was considered necessary to isolate every case of scarlet fever, now, providing the cases can be treated at home without danger to the public, the hospitalisation of scarlet fever cases is reduced as far as possible since the causal organism is so widely spread in the community. Tonsillitis plus a rash=scarlet fever and the unfortunate owner of same is frequently stampeded into an isolation hospital ; tonsillitis by itself is looked upon as a joke by one's friends and is regarded as affording a convenient excuse for staying away from one's daily work. Yet the two diseases are due to the same organism. The result is that only in certain instances, e.g., persons handling food, etc., is hospitalisation necessary at all. In addition, *modern* practice has decided that it is essential to provide beds for severe cases of measles or whooping cough living in unsuitable conditions especially if they develop broncho-pneumonia. Also it is considered advisable by many to nurse cases of influenzal pneumonia and puerperal sepsis in an isolation hospital. Therefore, having regard to these facts it is obvious that the number of beds mentioned is totally inadequate.

At the present rate of progress it will be several years at least before any such joint isolation hospital comes into being and in the meantime unnecessary suffering is caused by the lack of proper hospital facilities, while a perfectly good hospital at Moxley is vacant because it is supposed to be for smallpox, though there has not been one case in it for ten years !

Many of the neighbouring authorities which are included in the scheme are in the same boat as ourselves as to lack of isolation hospital accommodation, but this does not make the anxieties of this department any the less.

**Epidemiology.** Since 1st August a spot map of the site of each case of certain notifiable diseases, [Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Pneumonia, Tuberculosis (all forms),] along with all deaths of infants under one year, has been kept by means of coloured pins. With the exception of Diphtheria there is nothing to indicate any region of special incidence in the town. However, this disease showed a considerable tendency to localise in the



Cotterill's Farm area. Particular attention therefore was paid to the schools drawing children from there. As a matter of interest its incidence seemed to lie almost entirely east of the line Powis Avenue—Owen Street, though it should be remembered that the Tibbington Estate was only partially occupied in 1937. Up to the time of writing (May) the spot map does not show a similar localisation for 1938.

**Dysentery.** A case of dysentery due to *Bact. dysentery* (Sonne) was reported in December. Two other cases which although identical with the first clinically were not proved bacteriologically, occurred in the same house. The usual precautions were adopted and no further cases were reported. In spite of most careful investigation no evidence was obtained as to the nature of the infecting medium. It should be noted that an enormous increase over almost the whole country of this form of dysentery has been disclosed by the Registrar-General's weekly returns. The position is disquieting.

### **SPECIAL REPORT.**

As a result of an outbreak of gastro-enteritis associated with the consumption of ham from one particular shop, a special report was made to the Council and copies sent to the Ministry and to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The following is a summary :—

Two outbreaks occurred one following the other and each appeared to be due to the consumption of ham from one particular shop. It should be noted that it was only following on enquiries made in the second outbreak that the other cases were brought to light.

In all, 18 persons were effected with acute gastro-enteritis. An interesting feature of the second series of cases was that no vomiting occurred—only diarrhoea and abdominal pains. The incubation period was 12—36 hours. Specimens of blood, faeces, and urine were submitted to the County Laboratory but the results were not entirely conclusive as none of the supposedly infected ham remained. Specimens similar to the above were obtained from the two persons who were associated with the cooking of the hams but were also inconclusive though from one a peculiar type of proteus was isolated.

It is not possible therefore to indicate the exact cause though judging by the lack of agglutinins, organisms of the *Salmonella* group were not responsible.

The hams from this shop come from two sources, America and the Continent. It should be noted that outbreaks of acute gastro-enteritis mostly associated with ham were reported from several areas in 1937.

TABLE X.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1937.

Disease.	No. of Cases Notified														Total Cases Notified in each Ward.								
	1936	Age Groups													Tipton Green	Park	Burnt Tree	Dudley Port	Horseley Heath	Toll End	Ocker Hill	Tibbington	
		At all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over									Admitted to Hospital
Diphtheria ...	87	98		5	3	9	6	46	17	6	5	1	-	-	64	3	14	6	8	12	33	10	12
Scarlet Fever	99	38	1	-	1	4	1	17	11	1	2	-	-	-	14	2	7	5	4	5	11	2	2
Pneumonia ...	90	115	8	12	6	9	3	16	2	6	19	11	22	4	-	12	13	16	23	13	19	6	13
Erysipelas ...	32	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	10	3	-	1	2	1	2	2	2	3	-
Dysentery ...	-	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis																							
Lethargica	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
Puerperal Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia																							
Neonatorum	7	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	1	3	-
Pemphigus																							
Neonatorum	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ...	321	285	19	18	10	19	11	79	31	15	31	13	32	7		20	38	28	39	35	66	32	27

TABLE XI.

The following table shows the incidence and mortality from Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever since 1928.

Year	Cases Notified		No. of Deaths		Case Mortality%	
	Diphth- eria	Scarlet fever	Diphth- eria	Scarlet fever	Diphth- eria	Scarlet fever
1928	37	27	1	—	2.7	—
1929	22	41	—	—	—	—
1930	34	63	1	1	2.9	1.5
1931	32	120	—	1	—	0.80
1932	10	72	—	1	—	1.42
1933	11	66	1	—	9.0	—
1934	65	137	6	1	9.07	0.73
1935	109	128	6	1	5.5	1.78
1936	87	99	5	1	5.7	0.99
1937	98	38	7	—	7.1	—



TABLE XII.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

Year	No. of Cases		Attack Rate per 1000 Population		No. of deaths		Death Rate per 1000 Population	
	Pulmon- ary	Non Pul- monary	Pulmon- ary	Non Pul- monary	Pulmon- ary	Non Pul- monary	Pulmon- ary	Non Pul- monary
1928	62	33	1.6	.98	27	6	.75	.16
1929	57	27	1.5	.74	36	6	.99	.16
1930	56	23	1.5	.63	30	7	.82	.19
1931	95	24	2.6	.66	35	6	.96	.16
1932	71	21	1.9	.57	34	8	.93	.22
1933	44	15	1.2	.40	37	4	1.00	.10
1934	68	13	1.5	.35	29	3	.79	.08
1935	60	11	1.6	.30	42	6	1.15	.16
1936	35	7	.9	.19	21	1	0.58	.02
1937	36	8	.97	.21	30	3	0.81	.08

The crude death rate is 818 per million as compared with 583 (1936 figures) for England and Wales.

The following table shows the different institutions to which Tipton patients were admitted during 1937 :—

	Total	M.	F.
Prestwood Sanatorium...	13	13	—
Yarnfield Hospital ...	2	—	2
Edge View, Kinver ...	1	—	1
Groundslow Sanatorium	4	—	4
Standon Hall Orth. Hosp	3	1	2
Woodlands, Northfield...	1	1	—

TABLE XIII.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Groups.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 " ...	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
5—10 " ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
10—15 " ...	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
15—20 " ...	1	2	2	—	1	3	—	—
20—25 " ...	5	2	—	—	1	2	1	—
25—35 " ...	6	6	—	—	3	5	1	—
35—45 " ...	9	—	1	—	7	1	—	—
45—55 " ...	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
55—65 " ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	23	13	5	3	16	14	3	—

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 1 to 8.

TABLE XIV.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Year	No. of Deaths			Death Rate per 1000 population		
	Influenza	Measles	Whooping Cough	Influenza	Measles	Whooping Cough
1928	7	4	2	0.19	0.10	0.05
1929	19	11	9	0.52	0.32	0.24
1930	11	26	5	0.32	0.71	0.13
1931	12	1	3	0.33	0.02	0.08
1932	10	12	8	0.27	0.32	0.21
1933	19	—	2	0.51	—	0.05
1934	12	6	9	0.37	0.16	0.24
1935	12	10	3	0.32	0.27	0.08
1936	4	2	2	0.11	0.05	0.05
1937	19	4	4	0.51	0.10	0.10

TABLE XV

Diarrhoea and Enteritis.

(under two years).

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
No. of Deaths	6	5	10	8	12	11	3	5	6	8
Death Rate per 1000 live births	7.2	6.3	12.1	9.6	14.8	15.7	4.08	6.34	8.19	9.98



### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, Stafford, and the very complete facilities afforded have been appreciated and utilised to a considerable extent. The medical practitioner receives the result direct from the Laboratory, the Medical Officer receiving a copy.

The number of bacteriological examinations made and the results obtained is as follows :—

		No. of	Positive Negative	
		Examinations		
Diphtheria Bacilli	...	652	71	581
Tubercle Bacilli	...	218	45	173

**Part III.**  
**General Provisions of the**  
**Health Services for the Area.**

### A. **Infectious Disease Hospitals.**

**Fever.**—Cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and other infectious diseases are sent to West Bromwich Isolation Hospital or to other local hospitals if necessary.

**Smallpox.**—Tipton is one of the constituent districts of the South Staffordshire Smallpox Hospital Board. The Board's hospital is at Moxley, near Bilston.

**Tuberculosis.**—Treatment is provided by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Board with dispensaries at Dudley and Wednesbury.

The Sanatoria are :—

- (a) The Limes, Himley (for children).
- (b) Groundslow, Tittensor (for females).
- (c) Prestwood, Kingswinford (for males).
- (d) Edge View, Kinver (females).

The Committee also arranges for the admission of patients to certain Orthopædic Hospitals and to Yarnfield Hospital, near Stone.

B. **Venereal Diseases.**—Treatment for diseases of this nature is carried out under the County Authority. Clinics are held at the Guest Hospital, Dudley, on :—

Males—Tuesdays and Fridays	10.0 a.m., to 12 noon and 5.0 a.m., to 7.30 p.m.
Females—Wednesdays and Fridays	2.30 p.m. to 4.0 p.m., and 10.0 a.m. to 12 noon.

Wassermann and other investigations are carried out by the County Pathologist.



C. **Maternity.**—No Home exists in this Area. Paying patients are received at the Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home in Dudley. Cases requiring emergency treatment are sent to Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich.

D. **General Hospitals** within 3 miles radius.

- (1) Dudley Guest Hospital.
- (2) Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich.
- (3) West Bromwich and District General Hospital.

E. **Special Hospitals.**—

Special Hospitals for the treatment of diseases of Women, Ear, Nose and Throat, Skin, Eye etc., are situated in Birmingham or Wolverhampton, i.e., within a 10 mile radius.

There is no institutional provision within the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children. Some cases are dealt with at the Poor Law Infirmary, Dudley.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

- (a) For Infectious Cases ... These cases are removed by the West Bromwich Ambulance or those of other Hospitals.
- (b) For Non-infectious Cases Two Motor Ambulances.  
Smallpox cases would be removed by an ambulance from Wolverhampton.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Name. (1)	Situation. (2)	Sessions. (3)	Provided by (4)
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre ...	Central Clinic, Horseley Rd., Tipton	Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre ...	Tipton Green	Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre ...	Ocker Hill Rd., Tipton	Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre ...	Tividale Street, Tipton	Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Ante-Natal Clinic ...	Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton	Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Minor Ailment Clinic ...	Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton	Daily	Tipton U.D.C.
Minor Ailment Clinic ...	Princes End School, Tipton.	Thrice Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Dental Clinic ... (for Maternity and Child Welfare)	Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton	One session Weekly	Tipton U.D.C.
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Parsons Street, Dudley	Four times Weekly	Staffordshire County Council
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Russell Street, Wednesbury	Twice Weekly	Staff. C.C.
Venereal Diseases ...	Guest Hospital	Daily	Staff C.C.

## **WATER SUPPLY.**

The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company supply the whole of the district. The supply is constant and ample and has no plumbo-solvent action. No contamination was suspected during the period under review.

I am indebted to Mr. F. J. Dixon, M.Inst., C.E., M.Inst., M.E., Engineer-in-Chief to the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company for the following report :—

### **Result of Examination of Sample of Water.**

#### **BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.**

BACTERIA. Colonies per ml.  
 Nutrient Agar at 20°C. 3 days—14.  
 Nutrient Agar at 37°C. 1 day—2.  
 Nutrient Agar at 37°C. 2 days—4.  
 BACTERIUM COLI  
 Presumptive Test—Absent.  
 Confirmatory Tests—Absent.

#### **PHYSICAL CHARACTERS.**

COLOUR (Burgess)—16 m.m.  
 TURBIDITY—Clear.  
 TASTE—Normal.  
 ODOUR—Nil.

#### **CHEMICAL ANALYSIS (Expressed in Parts per 100,000).**

pH.—7.3.  
 Alkalinity (CaCo<sub>3</sub>)—13.0.  
 Chlorides (Cl)—2.20.  
 Ammoniacal Nitrogen—Trace.  
 Albuminoid Nitrogen—.0044.  
 Oxidised Nitrogen—.64.  
 Oxygen Absorbed (3 hrs. at 27°C.)—.050.  
 Temporary Hardness—12.3.  
 Permanent Hardness—10.5.  
 Total Hardness—22.8.  
 Iron (Fe)—.003.

Arrangements have been made for a report on the water supply to be submitted to the Health Committee each month.



Mr. H. N. Woodard, M.Inst. M. & Cy.E., Engineer and Surveyor submits the following report :—

### **SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.**

The general condition of the whole of the works and machinery has been maintained at a high standard, and during the year repairs have been carried out to the distributors and other items of machinery.

It was hoped to renew a number of the distributors during the year, but this has been found impracticable owing to cost. Fortunately, no serious breakdown has occurred, but replacements will have to be considered in the near future.

The standard of purification has remained high, despite heavy flows of sewage during certain months of the year.

The Sludge Digestion Plant has been in continual operation throughout the year, and has proved entirely satisfactory. It was anticipated that some difficulty would be experienced during extremely cold weather, but owing to skillful handling by the Sewage Works Manager, the production of gas, although reduced at periods, has been sufficient to drive all the necessary plant.

The volume of the sludge has been reduced, and the quality very much improved, but it has never been possible, owing to demands, to accumulate any stocks.

The resignation of Mr. H. S. Mercer, was accepted by the Council, on his appointment as Sewage Works Manager to the Borough of Chepping Wycombe, and a successor Mr. H. Myatt, was appointed in his stead.

During the period between the resignation of Mr. H. S. Mercer and the appointment of Mr. Myatt, the Sewage Works was very efficiently maintained by the Staff under the supervision of Mr. D. Philpott, Mechanical Assistant to the Manager.

### **SEWERS—FOUL AND STORM WATER.**

The scheme for the construction of a Relief Sewer from Ocker Hill to the Sewage Disposal Works was approved by the Ministry of Health, and a tender accepted by the Council. Work commenced upon this Contract on the 30th August, 1937 and excellent progress has been made therewith.

The extension of the sewer from Baker Street to Birmingham-Wolverhampton Road, rendered necessary by the development of an estate by private enterprise, was sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, and work commenced on this Contract on the 5th July, and was completed on the 20th September, 1937.

The usual cleansing of the sewer syphons has been carried out during the year, and the system generally is in a satisfactory condition.

### **BROOKCOURSES.**

The whole of the brookcourses in the district have been regularly cleansed, and I am once again pleased to report that no case of flooding has occurred, except on the Alexandra Road brookcourse. The cause of this temporary flooding was obstruction of the syphon under the canal, by timber and other rubbish, thrown by youths and children residing on the adjoining site, into the brook.

The section of brookcourse adjoining the Bloomfield Road Housing Estate was piped in during the year, the work being done by Direct Labour. Work commenced on this contract on the 19th July, 1937, and was completed on the 31st December, 1937.

The scheme for the piping of the brookcourse at the rear of houses in Alexandra Road has been commenced, and good progress is being made therewith. Owing to the delay in receiving the sanction of the Ministry of Health, to the scheme, the accepted tenderer intimated that he would be compelled to withdraw his price unless the increased cost of labour and materials was met by the Council. After protracted negotiations, an increase of  $7\frac{1}{2}\%$  on the original tender was agreed to by the Contractor, and accepted by the Council and the Ministry of Health.

### **ERECTION OF HOUSES BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.**

The erection of houses by private enterprise has shown a further increase on 1936, the totals being 140 as against 110. The total number of houses erected by private enterprise during previous years was as follows :—



1933	...	...	27 houses.
1934	...	...	51 "
1935	...	...	95 "
1936	...	...	110 "

There were 398 houses in course of erection at 31st December 1937, and from this it will be seen that 1938 will prove to be the most successful year for private enterprise since the War. It is obvious that this activity is assisting the Council very materially in dealing with their housing problem, and providing houses for the better paid wage earners, a section of the community for whom, the Council up to the moment, has been able to do very little.

## **PARKS.**

The development of Jubilee Park has proceeded satisfactorily during the year, and the additional area which has been levelled and soiled for a football pitch, has been completed. An additional Pavilion has been erected in Victoria Park, and is now utilised as a Centre for the old men of the district under the auspices of the " Sons of Rest " Movement. It is being very well patronised, and provides a place of happy recreation for the old people.

## **COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.**

The whole of the house refuse is disposed of on the Bradford System of tipping, and the work has been carried out efficiently. A large area of land adjoining the Tibbington Housing Estate is being levelled, and will prove a great asset to the town as a Playing Field when completed. The system of collection of refuse by Mechanical Horse and Trailers has been in operation for a full year, and despite the large number of mechanical breakdowns, it has proved extraordinarily economical. The Council are considering the purchase of a further machine of a greater H.P., as it appears the present one is slightly under the required power, and is consequently costing more in maintenance.

The total amount of dry refuse collected and tipped, based on test weighings amounted to 19,581 tons, and 624 tons of wet refuse has been collected and disposed of. The above figures give a daily tonnage of 55.4 (365 days to the year).



During the year 8,678 street gullies have been emptied and flushed, and 898 loads of refuse taken therefrom have been tipped.

The following are the totals of new dust bins supplied by the Council and owners, during the past twelve months :

By the Council	...	685
By Owners	...	101

H. N. WOODARD, M.I.M. & Cy.E.,

Engineer and Surveyor.

**Swimming Bath.** The Council possess one swimming bath measuring 75ft. × 28ft. which holds 81,000 gallons of water. Purification is by continuous filtration and chlorination through pulsometer filters with a turnover period of 4 hours and a Wallace and Tiernan Chlorinator.

**New Mortuary.**—Plans for a very much needed new mortuary were amended by the Ministry and the building was practically completed by the end of the year. It is unfortunate that the plans provided for the pulling down of the old one before the new one was erected thus making the provision of temporary accommodation essential. In addition three slabs have been provided but it is not possible to get the wheeled stretcher between them. Hower, the new building is a vast improvement on the old one and has been the subject of favourable comment.



**Part IV.**  
**Housing--Slum Clearance**  
**and Statistics**



## HOUSING.

As mentioned in the introduction the programme of slum clearance has been accelerated. The number of demolition orders under Section 11 of the 1936 Act being a record, but in spite of this the programme will by no means be completed by 1938.

The reduction in the subsidy therefore will hit particularly places like this where nearly 40% of the town will have been rebuilt, even reasonably level sites are impossible to obtain, and where the housing rate is already 2/-.

As regards overcrowding, the proposed subsidy is not going to benefit us very much as at the present time about 16% is being relieved by slum clearance. The appointed day for the coming into operation of sections 62 and 157 of the Act has been fixed for 1st January, 1938, and from 1st July therefore overcrowding will be an offence.

Undoubtedly this area has been faced with a problem the magnitude of which might have appalled the stoutest heart and to the credit of the town it can be said the people have faced up to their responsibilities in a manner deserving of the highest praise.

Unfortunately much remains to be done as many are still living in back-to-back houses, or grossly overcrowded rooms with foul unpaved courts lacking every sanitary amenity so that there is no ground for complacency, though this area is by no means the only one in which such conditions exist. (The T.B. rate is 818 per million as compared with 583 (1936 figures) for England and Wales.)

It is recorded with regret that certain areas which were the subject of official representations were rejected by the Council. The conditions obtaining there are the very antithesis of all that is denoted by Public Health and it can be stated emphatically that as far as this department is concerned such conditions will not be allowed to continue any longer than can be helped. As they are already burdened by a terrifically high housing rate one hesitates to add still further to the difficulties of the long-suffering ratepayers, but conditions cannot be allowed to remain as they are and it is necessary that areas such as those mentioned be demolished in order that the inhabitants can be permitted to enjoy a reasonable standard of living. Hard cases may make bad law but for the rate-payers it is certainly a hard case and deserving of consideration.

In dealing with slum houses in other areas a good deal has been done in the way of re-conditioning, sometimes with very little regard to the shell of the structure. Here in only very few cases is this possible. In this connection it is as well for all concerned to bear in mind the Biblical injunction against placing new wine in old (and, one may add, worn out) bottles.

A difficulty which has been noted previously was again present in a few instances this year. I refer to bug infestation in Council houses, usually round the picture rails. This department arranges for the disinfestation of furniture, bedding and certain personal effects by HCN of those removed from slum clearance houses and transfers, and repeated tests with live bugs, rats, etc., have shown its efficacy. It is obvious therefore, that the bugs have come in some other way either by being carried in clothing, or more probably woodwork from houses in course of demolition which is used for firewood or for the erection of various out-houses.

It should be noted that although local authorities are given power both under the Housing and the Public Health Acts to disinfest verminous houses, in practice, immediately the house is vacated all the windows are broken and woodwork including doors removed. As a result it is practically impossible to render such houses gas-tight particularly to HCN except at a prohibitive cost.

Further the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 84 (*d*) refers to any article in any *premises* and therefore cannot be held to cover woodwork removed from such premises and chopped up for firewood, or bricks which have been removed from demolished slum houses and sold to speculative builders after being rough dressed. It is desirable that regulations be made preventing this practice when the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector gives a certificate that the house is verminous.

This matter has been dealt with at some length as in the few cases where infestation of Council houses has occurred the department is invariably blamed for something which is not its fault at all and which furthermore is undoubtedly present in other places.

In connection with the disinfestation of bedding and also dealing with disinfection after cases of infectious diseases—where such is necessary—the lack of a steam disinfecting chamber is severely felt. An adequately sized Washington Lyon or similar apparatus would be of the greatest usefulness here. A suggestion has been made to combine an incinerator, salvage and by-product recovery plant and disinfecting station, though if this is found to be too costly, heat could be obtained from the town's gas works. It must be emphasised that economy, though of course most desirable should not be the only thing to be considered since it



necessarily limits the size of the disinfectors ; a plant of adequate size is absolutely essential.

The Council appointed a lady Home Visitor in April and from the time of commencing duties up till the end of the year 45 visits were paid to families displaced from slum clearance areas. Of this number, on re-visiting it was found that there was a marked improvement in approximately 75% of the cases but very little in the remaining 25% ; periodical visits however are being made and advice given.

As regards the general cleanliness of Council houses this Authority should consider whether the present arrangement whereby the Home Visitor is employed by the Housing Manager's Department should continue. As matters stand it is quite possible for this lady and one of the Health Visitors to go to a house within five minutes or less of each other. This is not good administration and it would be better if the Home Visitor came under the control of this department so that all matters connected with the visiting of houses could be completely co-ordinated.

With the completion of the Upper Church Lane/Gospel Oak Site almost all the undeveloped land in the town will have been occupied. The Council therefore must consider whether in the event of additional space for houses for slum clearance and overcrowding being required they should not proceed by means of re-development or compulsory purchase. In this connection a satisfactory town-planning scheme is essential.

During the year one Clearance Inquiry was held in respect of 5 Clearance areas comprising 162 houses and confirmation of the Council's Orders was obtained.

The actual number of houses declared as being unfit during the year was 250, made up as follows :—

No. of houses in slum clearance areas	...	...	134
No. of individual houses dealt with under Section 11			116
			<hr/>
	Total	...	250
			<hr/>

In addition 7 closing orders on parts of buildings were made by the Council.



The following table shows the rate of progress during each year—1931 to 1937.

Year.	Slum Clearance Areas.		Individual Unfit Houses.		Total No. of Houses	Total No. of Occupants
	No. of Houses.	No. of Occupants in such houses	No. of Houses.	No. of Occupants in such houses		
1931	—	—	55	291	55	291
1932	30	199	52	240	82	439
1933	257	1218	59	235	316	1453
1934	266	1215	22	114	288	1329
1935	262	1215	44	201	306	1416
1936	252	1199	55	250	307	1449
1937	134	565	116	589	250	1154
Total 1931/7	1201	5611	403	1920	1604	7531

### DEMOLITION OF UNFIT HOUSES.

During the year under review the demolition of houses has been greatly accelerated and the number demolished was 482, making a total of 1186 houses demolished since the commencement of the programme.

The following table shows the number of houses demolished each year :—

Year.	No. of houses demolished in Slum Clearance Areas.	No. of demolitions of individual houses dealt with.	Total.
1931	—	12	12
1932	—	36	36
1933	14	46	60
1934	177	34	211
1935	114	34	148
1936	186	51	237
1937	404	78	482
Total 1931/7	895	291	1186

**HOUSING ACT 1936—SECTION 25.**  
**SLUM CLEARANCE AREAS DECLARED DURING 1937.**

**Summary of the number of houses, type, persons occupying, etc.**

Area.	No. and type of Houses.			Total	Total No. of Occupants	No. of Occupants.			Average No. of Persons per house	No. of cases of Over-crowding
	Through	Not Through	Back-to-Back			Through	Not Through	Back-to-back.		
No. 81 Park Lane Passage	3	17	12	32	124	17	63	44	3.9	5
No. 82 Simons Passage	28	15	18	61	294	137	63	94	4.8	20
No. 83 Tibbington Terrace	19	8	14	41	147	68	27	52	3.6	2

27 houses or approximately 20% of the total number of these houses were found to be in an overcrowded condition.

HOUSING ACT 1936—SECTION 11.

INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATIONS BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
SUBMITTED DURING 1937.

No. and type of Houses.			Total No. of Occupants	No. of Occupants			Average No. of Persons per house	No. of cases of Over- crowding
Through	Not Through	Back-to Back		Through	Not Through	Back-to back		
44	38	34	116	245	187	157	5.1	33

In two instances undertakings not to use the houses for human habitation were accepted.

33 houses or approximately 28.4% of the total number of these houses were found to be in an over-crowded condition.



**SLUM CLEARANCE.****Table shewing the rate of progress since the commencement of the programme.**

(A) Clearance Areas	Date of Confirmation of Clearance Order.	Number of houses to be demolished	Position at 31st Dec , 1937	
			Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
1. Brickkiln Street	10th July 1933	17	17	86
2. Police Station Yard	Area Purchased	23	23	115
3. Toll End Road No. 1	8th Feb. 1934	22	22	120
4. Lewis Street and Horseley Heath	8th Feb. 1934	24	24	118
5. Moat Road	Area Purchased	31	31	142
6. New Road No. 1	19th April, 1934	5	5	14
7. Groves Row	19th April, 1934	6	6	25
8. New Road No. 2	5th June, 1934	16	16	67
9. New Road No. 3	5th June, 1934	8	8	44
10. New Road No. 4	5th June, 1934	37	37	173
11. Leabrook Road No. 1	5th June, 1934	6	6	33
12. Leabrook Road No. 2	5th June, 1934	5	5	27
13. Ocker Hill Road No.1	5th June, 1934	10	10	63
14. Gospel Oak Road No. 1	5th June, 1934	5	5	22
15. Goughs Buildings & Horseley Heath	5th June, 1934	25	25	96
16. Ocker Hill Road No.2	11th Oct. 1934	13	13	46
17. Orchard Street	11th Oct. 1934	4	4	12
18. Coneygre Road	11th Oct. 1934	9	9	49
19. Dudley Port No. 1	11th Oct. 1934	7	7	38
20. Brickyard Road	11th Oct. 1934	7	7	28
21. High Street, Princes End, No. 1	11th Oct. 1934	7	7	33
22. Lower Church Lane	11th Oct. 1934	12	12	57
23. Churchyard Row	11th Oct. 1934	9	9	35
24. Toll End Road No. 2	11th Oct. 1934	12	12	65
25. Wood Street No. 1	6th Feb. 1935	34	34	173
26. Wood Street No. 2	6th Feb. 1935	13	13	57
27. Coppice Street	6th Feb. 1935	20	20	112
28. Old Cross Street No.1	6th Feb. 1935	23	23	124
29. Old Cross Street No.2	6th Feb. 1935	12	12	58
30. Old Cross Street No.3	6th Feb. 1935	7	7	31
31. Dudley Port No. 2	31st May, 1935	21	21	110
32. Dudley Port No. 3	31st May, 1935	46	46	216
33. Dudley Port No. 4	31st May, 1935	20	15	81
34. Dudley Port No. 5	31st May, 1935	15	15	82
35. Dudley Port No. 6	31st May, 1935	21	19	96
36. Dudley Port No. 7	31st May, 1935	26	26	100
37. Hall Street No. 1	31st May, 1935	12	12	50
38. Hall Street No. 2	31st May, 1935	17	17	83
39. Dale Street	31st May, 1935	16	16	64
40. Old Cross Street No.4	31st May, 1935	18	18	105
41. Newells Row	31st May, 1935	5	5	26
42. Horseley Heath No. 1	31st May, 1935	8	8	36
43. Boat Row	31st May, 1935	35	27	186
44. Hurst Lane No. 1.	31st May, 1935	14	14	68
45. Bloomfield Rd. No. 1	31st May, 1935	12	12	57
46. The Coppice No. 1	9th April, 1936	12	12	47
47. Leabrook Road No. 3	9th April, 1936	8	8	27
48. Leabrook Road No. 4	9th April, 1936	6	6	22
49. Leabrook Road No. 5	9th April, 1936	5	5	20
50. Ocker Hill Road No.3	9th April, 1936	6	6	28
51. Ocker Hill Road No.4	9th April, 1936	6	6	22
52. Walton Street No. 1	23rd May, 1936	2	2	8

## HOUSING ACT, 1930—SLUM CLEARANCE—(continued).

(A) Clearance Areas	Date of Confirmation of Clearance Order.	Number of houses to be demolished	Position at 31st Dec, 1937	
			Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
53. Walton Street No. 2	23rd May, 1936	3	3	16
54. Toll End Road No. 3	23rd May, 1936	7	7	36
55. Toll End Road No. 4	23rd May, 1936	4	4	16
56. Gospel Oak Road No. 2	23rd May, 1936	5	5	36
57. Albion Place	23rd May, 1936	7	7	23
58. High Street, Princes End No. 2	23rd May, 1936	4	4	22
59. Leabrook Sq. No. 1	23rd May, 1936	5	5	25
60. Leabrook Sq. No. 2	23rd May, 1936	10	10	49
61. Leabrook Sq. No. 3	23rd May, 1936	10	10	45
62. Alexandra Road No. 1	14th Oct. 1936	8	5	31
63. Alexandra Road No. 2	14th Oct. 1936	3	3	24
64. Alexandra Road No. 3	14th Oct. 1936	2	2	8
65. Factory Road No. 1	14th Oct. 1936	6	—	9
66. Leech Street	14th Oct. 1936	15	15	77
67. Park Lane East No. 1	14th Oct. 1936	13	13	53
68. Park Lane East No. 2	14th Oct. 1936	2	2	8
69. Aston Street No. 1	14th Oct. 1936	7	5	31
70. Burnt Tree No. 1	14th Oct. 1936	5	5	43
71. Horseley Heath No. 2	14th Oct. 1936	12	10	80
72. Walker Street No. 1	14th Oct. 1936	9	9	43
73. Walker Street No. 2.	14th Oct. 1936	7	7	23
74. Wood Street No. 3	14th Oct. 1936	2	—	9
75. Wood Street No. 4	14th Oct. 1936	7	1	44
76. Bridge Road No. 1	2nd April 1937	9	9	40
77. Blomfield Road No. 2	2nd April, 1937	10	—	7
78. Hall Street No. 3	2nd April, 1937	11	—	39
79. Hall Street No. 4	2nd April, 1937	48	3	136
80. Tudor Street	30th Apr 1937	84	6	203
81. Park Lane Passage		32	—	—
82. Simons Passage		61	—	—
83. Tibbington Terrace		41	—	—
		1209	895	4773
(B) Individual Unfit Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made		370	291	1485
(C) Parts of Buildings in respect of which Closing Orders have been made		7	—	—
(D) Individual unfit houses in respect of which undertakings have been accepted		2	—	4
(E) Individual houses made fit for human habitation as a result of Council's Action		12	—	—
TOTALS		1579	1186	6258

**HOUSING ACT, 1936— SECTION 25. CLEARANCE AREAS.**

No. of houses inspected—134.

**Summary of available housing accommodation, type, etc., and conditions found at time of inspection.**

Accommodation available	Type of House			
	Through	Not Through or Blind Back	Back-to-Back	
One Room	—	2	—	
1 BR & 1 LR	4	18	18	
1 BR & 2 LR	—	2	—	
2 BR & 1 LR	5	12	17	
3 BR & 1 LR	—	—	3	
3 BR & 1 LR & Shop	2	—	—	
2 BR & 2 LR	19	6	6	
3 BR & 2 LR	13	—	—	
3 BR & 2 LR & Shop	2	—	—	
4 BR & 2 LR	1	—	—	
3 BR & 3 LR	1	—	—	
4 BR & 3 LR & Shop	1	—	—	
6 BR & 3 LR	1	—	—	
4 BR & 4 LR	1	—	—	
Totals	50	40	44	
WATER SUPPLY	Separate	...	...	33
	Common to 2 houses	...	...	12
	" " 3	"	...	10
	" " 4	"	...	6
	" " 5	"	...	2
	" " 6	"	...	1
	" " 7	"	...	1
SANITARY ACCOMMODATION	Separate W.C.	...	...	26
	Joint—W.C. for use of 2 houses	...	...	25
	" " " " 3	"	...	14
	" " " " 4	"	...	4
WASHING FACILITIES	Separate Washhouse	...	...	23
	Joint—Washhouse for use of 2 houses	...	...	18
	" " " " 3	"	...	7
	" " " " 4	"	...	6
	" " " " 5	"	...	3
	" " " " 6	"	...	1
	" " " " 7	"	...	1
	No provision	...	...	2
FOOD STORE	Satisfactory (Lighted and ventilated)	...	...	21
	Unsatisfactory (Ill-lighted and ventilated)	...	...	16
	No proper provision	...	...	97
SINK ACCOMMODATION	Washhouse—No of sinks separate	...	...	10
	" " " joint	...	...	30
	" " sills separate	...	...	3
	" " " joint	...	...	4
	Scullery—Sinks	...	...	11
	Sills	...	...	5
YARDS	Separate	...	...	21
	Common	...	...	32
	Paved	...	...	14
	Part Paved	...	...	39
	Unpaved	...	...	Nil



**HOUSING ACT, 1936—Sec. 11—INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.**

Number of houses represented—116.

**Summary of available housing accommodation, type, etc., and conditions found at time of inspection.**

Accommodation available	Type of House			
	Through	Not Through or Blind Back	Back-to-Back	
1 Room	—	1	1	
1 BR. & 1 LR	—	9	6	
2 BR & 1 LR	5	16	27	
3 BR & 1 LR	—	—	—	
2 BR & 2 LR	36	12	—	
4 BR & 2 LR	1	—	—	
3 BR & 3 LR	1	—	—	
4 BR & 3 LR	1	—	—	
Totals	44	38	34	

WATER SUPPLY	Separate	...	...	...	...	28
	Common to 2 houses	...	...	...	...	15
	" " 3	"	...	...	...	5
	" " 4	"	...	...	...	1
	" " 5	"	...	...	...	4
	" " 6	"	...	...	...	3
	Well water	...	...	...	...	1
SANITARY ACCOMMODATION	W.C.—Separate	...	...	...	...	12
	Midden Privy	...	...	...	...	2
	W.C. (joint) for use of 2 houses	...	...	...	...	29
	" " " " 3	"	...	...	...	10
	" " " " 4	"	...	...	...	2
	" " " " 6	"	...	...	...	1
WASHING FACILITIES	Washhouse—separate	...	...	...	...	26
	" (Joint) for use of 2 houses	...	...	...	...	15
	" " " " 3	"	...	...	...	13
	" " " " 4	"	...	...	...	1
	" " " " 5	"	...	...	...	3
	No washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	2
FOOD STORE	Satisfactory (lighted and ventilated)	...	...	...	...	28
	Unsatisfactory (ill-lighted and ventilated)	...	...	...	...	40
	No proper provision	...	...	...	...	48
SINK ACCOMMODATION	No provision	...	...	...	...	3
	Washhouse—No. of sinks (separate)	...	...	...	...	6
	" " " " (joint)	...	...	...	...	29
	" " Sills (separate)	...	...	...	...	1
	" " " (joint)	...	...	...	...	3
	Scullery—No. of Sinks	...	...	...	...	17
	" " " Sills	...	...	...	...	2
YARDS	Separate	...	...	...	...	11
	Common	...	...	...	...	27
	Paved	...	...	...	...	9
	Part paved	...	...	...	...	25
	Unpaved	...	...	...	...	4

**HOUSING STATISTICS.****No. of houses erected during the year from 1st January to 31st December, 1937.**

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b)				
(i)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	427
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	Nil.
(iii)	By other Bodies or Persons...	...	...	...	140
(b)	With State Assistance under the Housing Acts :—				
(i)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	427
(ii)	For the purpose of Part II of the Act, 1925	...	...	...	Nil.
(iii)	For the purpose of Part III of the Act, 1925	...	...	...	Nil.
(c)	Under the Act of 1936	...	...	...	427
(d)	Under the Act of 1925 Part III (without Government Subsidy)	...	...	...	40
(e)	No. of houses in course of erection at the end of the year :—				
(i)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	480
(ii)	By other Bodies or Persons...	...	...	...	398

**I.—Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year :—**

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	835
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose				1064
(2)	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	Nil.
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose				Nil.
(3)		Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	40
(4)		Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	242

## 2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	191
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

### A.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 and 16, OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936

- |     |   |     |     |      |
|-----|---|-----|-----|------|
| (1) | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs  | ... | ... | Nil. |
| (2) | Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— |     |     |      |
| (a) | By Owners   | ... | ... | Nil. |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners...  |     |     | Nil. |

### B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

- |     |   |     |     |     |      |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (1) | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | 385  |
| (a) | Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : -       |     |     |     |      |
| (a) | By Owners   | ... | ... | ... | 41   |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners   | ... |     |     | Nil. |

### C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 : -

- |     |  |     |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (including 1 Caravan) | 116 |
| (2) | Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders                          | 78  |

### D.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

- |     |   |     |     |     |      |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | ... | ... | ... | 7    |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |



**4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—**

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	694
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...			1108
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...			4999
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	8
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	90
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases				538
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which the dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	Nil.

Mr. C. R. Gallie, A.R.I.B.A., Housing Director reports as follows :—

**Housing.**

The provision of houses by the Local Authority under the Housing Act, 1936 during the year has been well maintained, approximately 400 houses have been completed in the twelve months, 50 per cent. of these having been built by Direct Labour. Considering that over three weeks were lost previous to Christmas owing to frost this progress is very satisfactory.

The number of houses at present in course of erection and which will be started in the near future is 480 ; every effort will be made to complete as many as possible of these by the 31st December, 1938 when the existing Government subsidy ceases.

In addition to the above houses for slum clearance there are 40 parlour type houses in course of erection, being built without Government Subsidy, each dwelling having sufficient land provided for garage accommodation.

A site of 72 acres purchased by the Council is now in course of development the work of levelling and constructing roads and sewers being proceeded with. A further site of 23 acres recently purchased is now under consideration for development. Both these sites are intended mainly for Non-Subsidy houses, portions being reserved for the necessary amenities of large housing estates.

It is anticipated that excellent progress will be made for the provision of all types of houses during 1938.

**Part V.**  
**Maternity and Child Welfare.**

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Council's activities in the direction of Maternity and Child Welfare are deserving of high commendation. The greatly increased issues of dried milk, the extension of the supply of liquid milk to children up to school age; the provision of dentures to nursing and expectant mothers, as well as certain other matters which are referred to below all go to show that the Council is carrying out the duties of a Welfare Authority—a most happy phrase—in a manner which is a credit to the town and worthy of an area applying for, and deserving of higher status.

In the past year it is a pleasure to note increased attendances at the clinics and a more lively interest on the part of the mothers, so much so that it will be necessary to have an additional afternoon at the Central Clinic to cope with the extra numbers.

A highly satisfactory feature was the relatively large number of attendances of children over one year of age, thus disposing of the necessity for the so-called "toddlers" clinics in this area. These were tried but it was found that mothers brought also children who should have gone to the Infant Welfare Clinics and friction was apt to result. This has now been avoided by the policy of "let 'em all come," though no doubt clinics purely for the pre-school child—the word "toddler" is a horrible one, and its perpetrator deserving of execration—are all very well in other areas where the "only" child is more common.

The scales for the granting of milk either free or at a reduced rate to necessitous mothers were reviewed and a more generous one adopted, and as a result of the Council's consideration of Circular 1519 measures for the issue of liquid milk have been put into operation and the question of the provision of meals is now being examined along with a Sub-Committee of the School Medical Service Committee.

The issue of liquid milk to mothers and children up to three years of age was agreed to some time ago but has never been taken up strongly until this Circular acted as a further stimulus. Extensive use is being made of the powers now granted with a corresponding benefit to the children.

It is most earnestly hoped that the Government's promise of a reduction in the price of milk to mothers and children will be carried out very shortly as the amount now being consumed is paid for at market price and the cost is an extra burden on the ratepayers, which although shouldered gladly in the interests of the children is so much a national matter that the Government should pay the major portion, otherwise progressive authorities



are penalised and a premium placed on the slowcoaches. The present position is unfair to areas similar to this where a penny rate produces only £500 but which are carrying out their duties almost to the limit.

In this connection it is very unfortunate that when introducing the Budget for 1938-39 the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not see his way to putting a tax say 1d., per gallon on the consumption of beer etc., expressly for the purpose of providing the money to make this cheaper milk available. It has now become necessary (May 1938) to curtail the quantities issued in order to avoid spending, too much although the value of milk is well known.

The Medical Officer of Health suggested in November that a representative of the Medical Practitioners be co-opted on the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and this will be acted upon in 1933.

In the consideration of the Ministry's Circular 1622 it was decided that :—

- (1) Additional hospital facilities should be provided for maternity cases where the home circumstances were unsuitable.
- (2) Dentures should be provided either free or at a reduced charge to those mothers who required them provided they were not entitled to dental benefit under the National Insurance Scheme.
- (3) Preparations are being made in conjunction with a neighbouring County Borough for the use of a " flying squad " for emergency maternity cases when such is established.

In February it was decided to appoint a dental surgeon for Maternity and Child Welfare and the Council were fortunate to secure the services of Mr. R. H. Bellerby in this connection.

Our thanks are once again most gratefully accorded to the ladies who assist at the various Welfare Centres in a voluntary capacity. Their help and interest are of the greatest service.

The figures for infant mortality are almost the same as for last year and it is disappointing that 23 out of 63 deaths occurred in the first month in spite of increased attention to ante-natal questions such as nutrition, housing, etc. As regards maternal mortality two cases occurred giving a rate which compares favourably with other areas.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(As submitted in accordance with Form M. & C. W. 93 (Revised).

1. **Population served by the Council** (Midyear 1937) ... 36,670
2. Number of births notified in that area during the year :—
 

(a) <b>Live Births</b>	775	(b) <b>Stillbirths</b>	21		<b>Total</b>	<b>796</b>
(d) <b>By Midwives</b>	773	(e) <b>By doctors and parents</b>			23	

### 3. **HEALTH VISITING.**

Number of Officers employed for health visiting at the end of the year :—

- |                |     |     |     |     |   |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (a) By Council | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

Equivalent of whole-time services devoted by the whole staff to health visiting (including attendances at Infant Welfare Centres) :—

- |  |     |     |     |                |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| (a) In the case of Health Visitors employed by the Council | ... | ... | ... | $2\frac{1}{2}$ |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------------|

### **Number of visits paid during the year by all Health Visitors :—**

- |  |              |      |
|--|--------------|------|
| (i) To Expectant Mothers :                             | First Visits | 208  |
|  | Total Visits | 313  |
|  |              |      |
| (ii) To Children under one year of age :—              | First Visits | 811  |
|  | Total Visits | 3599 |
|  |              |      |
| (iii) To Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years :— | Total Visits | 4912 |

### 4. **INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.**

- (a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council ... .. 4
- (b) Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :—
 

(i) By children under one year of age	...	...	7763
(ii) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	5176
- (c) Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were :—
 

(i) Under one year of age	...	...	513
(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	134

(d) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year were :—

(i) Under one year of age ... .. 423

(ii) Over one year of age ... .. 698

(e) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (c) (i) ... .. 70.47%

## 5. ANTE-NATAL.

(i) Number of clinics provided and maintained by Council ... .. 1

(ii) Total number of attendances at all Clinics during the year ... .. 808

(iii) Total number of women who attended at the Clinics during the year ... .. 263

(iv) Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the total number of women shown under 5 (a) (iii) ... 35.73%

## 6. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	No. of Cases notified during the year.	No. of Cases visited by officers of the Council.	No. of Cases removed to Hospitals.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	9	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	2
Pemphigus	—	1	1
Puerperal Fever	1	1	1



## 7. CONSULTANTS.

Mr. J. S. M. Connell, F.R.C.S., is the consultant obstetrician.

## 8. MIDWIVES.

Number practising in the area served by the Council for Maternity and Child Welfare at the end of the year 11

Number of cases during the year in which the Council paid or contributed to the fee of a midwife ... 3

## 9. ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Mr. John S. M. Connell, attends the Ante-Natal Clinic at the Central Clinic, Horseley Road, every Friday afternoon.

The Clinics are available for any patients whether insured or otherwise, if the doctor feels that attendance at them is desirable in addition to the Ante-Natal care given by himself.

(1) Total number of attendances by expectant mothers at the Ante-Natal Clinic during the year 808

(2) Total number of expectant mothers who attended the Clinic :—

		1937	1936	1935	1934
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
New Cases	...	236	200	219	160
Old Cases	...	27	24	21	12

(3) Number of expectant mothers sent to Hallam Hospital ... 35

### Types of Cases seen at the Clinic.

TYPE.	ACTION TAKEN.	No.
Normal ...	Doctor or Midwife informed	188
For X-Ray ...	Referred to Hallam Hospital	2
For investigation ...	" " "	5
For induction ...	" " " "	1
Heart disease ...	" " " "	1
Oedema ...	" " " "	4
Miscellaneous ...	" " " "	2
High blood pressure ...	Referred to own Doctor	5
Heart Disease ...	" " " "	1
Albuminuria ...	" " " "	4
Pyelitis of pregnancy ...	" " " "	1
Large Palpable Spleen ...	" " " "	1
Oedema ...	" " " "	4
Non-pregnant ...	" " " "	2
Miscellaneous ...	" " " "	8
Referred to Dentist ...		7
	Total	<hr/> 236 <hr/>

## 10. CHILD PROTECTION.

The supervision of Foster Children is carried out by this Authority in accordance with Sec. 209 of the Public Health Act, 1936. One Child Life Protection Visitor has been appointed.

### HEALTH VISITING.

During the year the Health Visitors made 811 first visits to infants in the district. Visits are arranged to be made shortly after the midwife or doctor has ceased attending, in order to see if all is going on well with the baby and to see whether they can be of assistance to the mother by giving some advice or practical suggestions.

3599 visits were made to children under one year of age, while 4912 visits were made to children between the ages of one and five years, making a grand total of 8511 visits.

### DEFECTS FOUND IN CHILDREN ATTENDING THE CENTRES.

Disease.	Central Clinic	Tipton Green	Burnt Tree	Ocker Hill	Total
Debility ... ..	3	5	—	1	9
Malnutrition ... ..	8	1	—	3	12
Rickets ... ..	3	—	1	—	4
Overfeeding ... ..	4	4	2	2	12
Improper Feeding ...	4	—	1	1	6
Diarrhoea and Sickness (due to improper feeding) ... ..	2	—	—	—	2
Skin diseases ... ..	9	2	8	5	24
Tonsils and Adenoids...	2	2	1	—	5
Ophthalmia Neona- torum ... ..	—	1	1	—	2
Phimosis ... ..	9	2	1	3	15
Squint ... ..	3	2	4	—	9
Constipation ... ..	—	7	1	—	8
Umbilical Hernia ...	8	3	6	7	24
Crippling defects ...	2	1	—	2	5
Eye defects ... ..	8	—	2	4	14
Inguinal Hernia ...	1	1	1	—	3
Nævus ... ..	—	—	—	3	3
Otorrhoea ... ..	—	—	—	2	2
Pemphigus ... ..	—	—	1	—	1
Miscellaneous ... ..	34	3	7	12	56
Total ... ..	100	34	37	45	216

**METHODS OF FEEDING (First Attenders).**

Method	Central Clinic	Tipton Green	Burnt Tree	Ocker Hill	Total
Natural (Breast) ...	106	91	72	64	333
Artificial (various) ...	39	30	15	30	114
Combined (natural and artificial) ... ..	23	29	8	8	68
Breast feeding over 1 year ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>516</b>

**SUPPLY OF MILK.**

Dried milk is supplied at cost price to mothers attending the Welfare Centres. Where the family income is low it is supplied free or at a reduced rate.

Virol, and Cod Liver Oil and Malt also supplied on the recommendation of the Medical Officer.

During the year 2839 packets or tins of dried milk were issued free and 731 at a reduced rate.

**Nursing Mothers.**

During the year 1744 packets of Colact were issued free to 180 individual nursing mothers.

**MINOR AILMENTS.**

416 children between the ages of one and five years were treated at the Daily Clinic, making a total of 924 attendances.

New cases during the year ...	416
Old cases during the year ...	171

**NEW CASES CLASSIFIED :—**

Impetigo ... ..	78
Ringworm Body ... ..	5
Scabies ... ..	9
Other skin diseases ... ..	58
Minor Ear " ... ..	29
Minor Eye " ... ..	50
Miscellaneous ... ..	187
	<hr/>
	416
	<hr/>



## TREATMENT OF EYE DEFECTS.

The Council continued the arrangements made with Mr. Roberts, the School Ophthalmic Surgeon, for the treatment of squint and other eye defects found among children attending the Infant Welfare Centres.

### Details of cases referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic.

Disease	Treatment recommended by Mr. Roberts	No.
Corneal Ulcer ... ..	Clinical treatment ... ..	1
Catarrhal conjunctivitis...	" " ... ..	7
" blepharitis ... ..	" " ... ..	1
Congenital Nystagmus ...	For Observation ... ..	1
Imperfect tear duct ...	Referred to Guest Hospital...	2
Epiphora ... ..	" " " "	1
Leucoma ... ..	" " " "	2
Ophthalmia ... ..	" " " "	3
Squint ... ..	Spectacles prescribed ...	15
	Total ...	33

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The arrangements made for the treatment of these cases at the Dudley Guest Hospital, were continued.

## DENTAL TREATMENT.

The report of Mr. R. H. Bellerby, L.D.S., is as follows :—

I have pleasure in submitting my First Annual Report of the Dental Department attached to the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

This Department was inaugurated on January 29th, 1937, and whilst the population is comparatively small, confined as it is to expectant and nursing mothers, and children under the age of five years, the Service I am happy to state, is growing increasingly popular, and that the number of patients attending is growing steadily. I would however, be very particularly pleased to see and advise expectant and nursing mothers, as there is no doubt that in the former, clean and healthy teeth do largely help to lessen some of the dangers attending childbirth, whilst for nursing mothers, dental decay and

septic teeth hinder quick recovery, induce contamination of food which is improperly assimilated with the almost certain result that the milk for the breast-fed baby is either poor or deficient in either quality or quantity or even both.

You will see from the figures below that practically all branches of dental surgery are carried out at the Clinic, and I look forward to its increased success.

Number of patients	...	...	127
Extractions	...	...	162
Fillings	...	...	5
Gas cases	...	...	2
Patients fitted with Dentures	...		5
Dressing and sundry attentions			73

In conclusion, I wish to thank Nurse Read for her willing and active co-operation and assistance in the work of this Department.

R. H. BELLERBY, L.D.S.

### **DUMMIES.**

Number of first attenders under one year of age (*a*) with dummies 212 (*b*) without dummies 299.

Number of first attenders over one year of age (*a*) with dummies 7 (*b*) without dummies 118.

### **COTS.**

Number of first attenders sleeping with parents	...	105
Number of first attenders sleeping in separate cots	...	531

# ATTENDANCES AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

Ref. (1)	Year ended 31st Dec. (2)	Centre. (3)	Sessions (4)	Attendances (5)	Average Attendances per Session (6)	New Admissions and Average (7)
1.	1932	Bedford House ... Coppice Street ... Ocker Hill ... Burnt Tree ...	52 50 48 48	3415 2035 2008 1574	67 } 40 } 41 } 32 } 45	266 } 179 } 96 } 98 } 159
2.	1933	Bedford House ... Coppice Street ... Ocker Hill ... Burnt Tree ...	48 49 48 48	3458 2057 1482 1720	72 } 42 } 32 } 36 } 45	193 } 154 } 69 } 75 } 122
3.	1934	Bedford House ... Coppice Street ... Ocker Hill ... Burnt Tree ...	49 47 48 48	3487 2111 2151 1703	71 } 45 } 44 } 35 } 49	176 } 121 } 87 } 85 } 117
4.	1935	Bedford House ... Coppice Street ... Ocker Hill ... Burnt Tree ...	48 50 48 48	3112 2798 2453 1818	64 } 56 } 51 } 38 } 52	178 } 176 } 118 } 95 } 141
5.	1936	Central Clinic ... Coppice Street ... Ocker Hill ... Burnt Tree ...	49 49 49 49	3183 2711 2375 2232	65 } 55 } 47 } 45 } 53	187 } 161 } 93 } 114 } 138
6.	1937	Central Clinic ... Tipton Green ... Ocker Hill ... Burnt Tree ...	48 49 48 48	4299 3169 3032 2439	90 } 65 } 63 } 51 } 67	233 } 179 } 110 } 125 } 162



SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT ALL CENTRES.

	Central Clinic	Tipton Green	Ocker Hill	Burnt Tree	Total
Number of Sessions held	48	49	48	48	193
Number of Sessions held by Doctor	47	43	40	36	166
New Cases seen by Doctor	221	179	101	125	626
Old Cases seen by Doctor	599	394	449	345	1787
Total Cases seen by Doctor	820	573	550	470	2413
Total number of First Attenders under one year	166	150	95	102	513
Total number of First Attenders over one year	67	29	15	23	134
Total number of First Attenders	233	179	110	125	647
Total Attendances under one year	2423	2062	1782	1496	7763
Total Attendances over one year	1876	1107	1250	943	5176
Grand Total of Attendances	4299	3169	3032	2439	12939

### ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The arrangements for the children suffering from crippling defects to receive treatment at the Orthopædic Department, Guest Hospital, Dudley, have again been continued.

The following cases were referred to Mr. Freeman for Orthopædic treatment :—

Swelling of left ankle	...	1
Sterno-Mastoid (injury to)	...	3
Fractured clavicle	...	1
Flat foot	...	1
Torticollis	...	4
Rickets	...	1
Injury to left arm	...	1
Paralysis right arm and side of face	...	1
Inversion of left toe	...	1
Inversion of foot	...	2

Thirty-eight cases were also referred to the Guest Hospital as follows :—

Cretin	...	1
Glands	...	9
Tonsils	...	4
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	5
Circumcision	...	3
Nævus	...	3
Hernia	...	4
Pyloric Stenosis	...	1
Marasmus	...	1
Urticaria	...	1
Otorrhoea	...	1
Other defects	...	5

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE MIDWIVES ACTS 1902—1936.

After some argument between interested parties resulting in a public Inquiry an Order dated 24th July, 1937 was made by the Minister constituting the Council the Local Supervising Authority for this area as from 1st September. The date of submission of a scheme for the establishment of a domiciliary midwifery service was fixed for the 1st October, but this interval of one month being so obviously too short the latter date was amended to 1st November. In this connection it should be remarked that it is unfortunate that while when the Act was first passed, those Councils that were already Local Supervising

Authorities were given six months to submit a scheme, an area which had never taken on such duties before and had therefore no administrative machinery of any sort available for the purpose, was given at first only one month.

The scheme originally submitted provided for the employment of eight midwives and a non-medical supervisor. Four of these were to be whole-time servants of the Council and four were to be supplied by the Tipton and District Nursing Home. Negotiations with the latter body were accordingly entered into to this effect, but these unfortunately proved to be protracted. The scheme is not functioning yet and it is possible that some alterations will be necessary.

**Medical Aid.** From the 1st September to 31st December, 1937 the midwives found it necessary to send for medical aid in 77 cases. The cost to the Council of the medical fees incurred was £47. 6s. 6d., and £6. 4s. 0d., was recovered from the patients.

### **Notification of Intention to Practice.**

By the end of the year 11 midwives had given notice of intention to practice in this area on the proper form in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives Board.



**Part VI.**  
**Report of the Sanitary Inspector.**

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my fourth report on the sanitary administration of the district for the year 1937. The report is divided into sections and comments made were called for.

The work of the department shows continued progress and development in every branch in spite of the tremendous amount of work under the Housing Act, both in respect of slum clearance and overcrowding, and the increasing work of meat and food inspection.

After glancing through the section of the Report relating to "Housing" it must be evident to anyone of the heavy task with which the department has been faced and it is perfectly obvious that the slum clearance programme cannot be finished by the end of 1938.

It is gratifying to note that the "appointed day" under Section 157 of the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding has been fixed for the 1st July, 1938 as the influx of families from surrounding districts into rooms in this area causing additional overcrowding is becoming a serious problem.

Two very pleasing features noticed by the action of slum clearance is that 230 cases of overcrowding have been relieved and 74 families affected by Pulmonary Tuberculosis living in unfit houses have been rehoused into new Council houses.

Referring to the section relating to Inspection and Supervision of Food it will be observed that this branch of work is still increasing and the number of carcasses of all animals inspected by the sanitary inspectors during the year amounted to 27,719 as against 25,742 during 1936.

In conclusion I wish to express my genuine thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued confidence, to Dr. Dunscombe for his wholehearted support and encouragement, and the staff for their loyalty and splendid service. The additional Sanitary Inspectors have had on numerous occasions to give their time out of what can be considered working hours, in order to enable the work to be carried out.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. ACTON,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of visits paid by the Sanitary Inspectors for various causes totalled 7268 as against 5631 in the previous year, and the visits are classified under their appropriate headings in the following table.

**Table 1.**

Housing Act, 1936—Slum Clearance	...	...	...	571
Number of re-visits re-Housing Acts	...	...	...	718
Number of visits under the Housing Acts, 1936 re Disinfection	...	...	...	28
Number of visits under Public Health Acts—District Inspection	...	...	...	468
Number of re-visits to work in progress	...	...	...	171
Number of re-visits re Notices served	...	...	...	468
Owners etc., interviewed...	...	...	...	45
Number of visits re complaints	...	...	...	450
Number of visits re cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	155
Number of visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	772
Number of visits re Pig killing on private premises	...	...	...	19
Number of visits to Meat and Food Shops	...	...	...	242
Number of visits to Markets	...	...	...	114
Number of visits to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	48
Number of visits re Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	96
Number of Canal Boats inspected	...	...	...	40
Number of visits re Overcrowding Cases	...	...	...	1801
Number of visits re Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	...	16
Number of visits re Atmosphere Pollution	...	...	...	10
Number of primary visits to Workshops (including Bake-houses)	...	...	...	34
Number of re-visits to Workshops (including Bake-houses)	...	...	...	30
Number of visits to Ice-cream Vendors	...	...	...	13
Number of visits to stables	...	...	...	14
Number of visits to Cinemas	...	...	...	9
Number of visits to Pigsties	...	...	...	2
Number of visits to Offensive Trade premises	...	...	...	42
Number of visits to Schools	...	...	...	4
Number of visits re Petroleum Regulations	...	...	...	107
Number of visits re Vermin infested premises	...	...	...	82
Number of Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	63
Numbers of visits re Smoke Testing of Drains	...	...	...	64
Numbers of Visits to Dirty houses	...	...	...	9
Numbers of visits re Shops Act	...	...	...	563
Total visits				7268

## INSPECTION ON COMPLAINT.

A register of complaints is kept in the Office, in which all complaints are entered. The number of complaints registered during the year totalled 450 as against 368 in the previous year.



On investigation of these complaints 553 defects were revealed and these defects are classified in the following table :—

**TABLE II.**  
**DEFECTS REVEALED IN HOUSES ETC., VISITED ON COMPLAINT.**

W.C. and yard drains choked	...	...	...	...	70
Defective W.C. drains	...	...	...	...	12
Defective waste and surface water drains	...	...	...	...	7
Defective sinks and sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	4
Absence of sink accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
Defective inspection chambers and covers	...	...	...	...	4
Defective waste and surface water gullies	...	...	...	...	2
Inadequate sanitary and refuse accommodation	...	...	...	...	2
Defective condition of W.C. buildings	...	...	...	...	13
Defective W.C. basins	...	...	...	...	10
Defective W.C. cisterns, flush pipes etc.	...	...	...	...	11
Defective Washhouse buildings	...	...	...	...	12
Defective coppers and grates to Washhouses	...	...	...	...	6
Defective yard surfaces	...	...	...	...	4
Defective yard boundary wall	...	...	...	...	1
Defective water supply pipes	...	...	...	...	8
Inadequate and not readily accessible water supply	...	...	...	...	1
Defective roofs, eavesgutters and downspouts	...	...	...	...	120
Defective woodwork to windows and doors	...	...	...	...	30
Defective cords to sash windows	...	...	...	...	11
Defective staircases	...	...	...	...	5
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	33
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	16
Defective fireplaces, ovens, boilers etc.	...	...	...	...	10
Dampness	...	...	...	...	19
Defective external brickwork to walls	...	...	...	...	5
Defective chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	2
Defective flues to chimneys	...	...	...	...	3
Flooded condition of cellars	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty condition of walls and ceiling	...	...	...	...	16
Dirty condition of premises	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty condition of offensive trade premises	...	...	...	...	1
Verminous condition of premises...	...	...	...	...	29
Rat infestation	...	...	...	...	11
Keeping of animals so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	10
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	18
Offensive smells	...	...	...	...	6
Accumulation of refuse etc.	...	...	...	...	7
Smoke and grit nuisances	...	...	...	...	6
Housing of caravans so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	2
Defective covers to cellar areas	...	...	...	...	5
Insanitary condition of stables	...	...	...	...	4
Offensive cesspools	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	7
Total				...	553

## STATEMENT OF REMOVAL OF SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES IN AND AROUND DWELLINGS.

During the year under review 581 preliminary notices and 69 statutory notices were served for the abatement of nuisances and the remedy of sanitary defects in and around dwellings and the following table shows the nature of the work actually carried out :—

**Table III.**

NATURE OF WORK DONE.	Nos.
<b>HOUSES—</b>	
Repaired and renovated throughout ... ..	14
Roofs repaired ... ..	178
Eavestroughing and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	72
Chimneys repaired ... ..	11
External walls repaired, rebuilt etc. ... ..	39
Damp proof courses installed or repaired ... ..	4
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired ... ..	61
Bedrooms and Living rooms renovated ... ..	49
Houses cleansed ... ..	2
Quarry and brick floors repaired ... ..	18
Wood floors repaired ... ..	19
Fixed windows made to open ... ..	8
Windows repaired or renewed ... ..	49
Windows provided with new sash cords ... ..	27
Doors repaired or renewed ... ..	28
General house fittings repaired or renewed (boilers, fireranges, etc.) ... ..	18
Staircase repaired or renewed ... ..	13
Staircase handrails provided ... ..	1
Food stores provided ... ..	1
Food storage premises provided with light and ventilation	3
Adequate and readily accessible water supply provided	15
Washing facilities provided ... ..	2
Glazed sinks provided in lieu of brick and quarry sinks	30
Additional sinks provided ... ..	2
Washhouses repaired ... ..	63
Washhouse boilers and furnace grates renewed ... ..	22
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	10
Water supply laid on direct to houses ... ..	4
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	9
Covers to cellar areas renewed ... ..	4
Disused ashplaces demolished ... ..	5
<b>YARDS PASSAGES, ETC.</b>	
Yard surfaces repaired ... ..	9
Yard walls rebuilt or repaired ... ..	5
Passage surfaces repaired ... ..	2

## CLOSETS—

Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	7
W.C. Buildings repaired	...	...	...	37
New W.C. pedestal pans fitted	...	...	...	17
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	16
Flush water supply pipes, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	25
Midden privy converted to fresh water carriage system	...	...	...	1
W.C. provided with intervening ventilated space	...	...	...	1
Seats to W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	11
Pail Closet converted to fresh water carriage system	...	...	...	1
Waste water closets converted to fresh water carriage system	...	...	...	3

## DRAINAGE—

Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	109
Main drain reconstructed and extended	...	...	...	2
W.C. branch drains repaired and reconstructed	...	...	...	22
Waste and surface water drains repaired	...	...	...	15
New covers to inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	16
Ventilation pipes to drains installed and renewed	...	...	...	4
New gully traps fitted	...	...	...	7
Additional gullies provided	...	...	...	4
Additional inspection chambers installed	...	...	...	3
Inspection chambers repaired	...	...	...	5
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drain	...	...	...	2
Bath and sink waste pipes disconnected	...	...	...	1

## ACCUMULATIONS—

Stagnant water removed	...	...	...	4
Offensive accumulation removed	...	...	...	9

## GENERAL—

Stables provided with proper drainage...	...	...	...	1
Stables provided with middenstead	...	...	...	1
Stables discontinued	...	...	...	1
Stables limewashed and cleansed	...	...	...	1
Keeping of animals discontinued	...	...	...	43
Premises used for fish-frying discontinued	...	...	...	1
Ice-cream premises cleansed	...	...	...	2
Middenstead provided with suitable drainage	...	...	...	2
Fish frying premises repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	8
Meat and Food preparation premises cleansed	...	...	...	4
Proper covered receptacles for refuse provided...	...	...	...	5
Gut scraping premises provided with proper drainage	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses cleansed	...	...	...	4

NOTE.—See also under Factory and Workshops Acts.



## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

During the year it was found necessary to institute legal proceedings against three persons for contravention of the Shops Acts.

Proceeding taken under	Default.	Result.
Shops Acts 1912/34	Contravention of the provisions of the Act in respect of closing hours	Two shop-keepers fined 10/- each. One stall-holder fined £3. 0s. 0d.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There are 9 registered slaughterhouses on the register as compared with 10 at the end of 1936, one slaughterhouse having been closed voluntarily.

Two slaughterhouses are attached to bacon-curing and sausage-making factories one of these factories being supervised by a Veterinary Officer.

The number of visits paid to slaughterhouses during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors who are all qualified meat inspectors was 772 as against 548 during 1936. In addition 19 visits were paid to private premises in respect of pig killing.

The number of animals inspected during these visits was 27,719 as against 25,742 during 1936, made up as follows :—

Beasts	...	...	2246
Calves...	...	...	216
Pigs ...	...	...	20601
Sheep	...	...	4656

The total amount of meat condemned by the Sanitary Inspectors was :—

Tons	Cwts.	Qr.	Lbs.
28	1	1	2

It will be realised from the above figures that the number of animals killed in this area has considerably increased and that this very important branch of work takes up a considerable amount of time.

The undermentioned table shews the number of carcasses inspected and condemned.

**CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1139	1107	216	4656	20601
Number inspected ...	1139	1107	216	4656	20601
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses ... condemned ...	Nil	2	1	6	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	54	74	—	101	3576
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	4.7	6.8	0.5	2.3	17.4
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses ... condemned ...	1	2	—	—	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	29	172	—	—	3032
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	2.6	15.7	—	—	14.8

(Slaughterhouses under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors only).

The following is a summary of the foodstuffs seized or surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human food.

**Foodstuffs seized or surrendered and destroyed as being unfit  
for human food.**

**Carcases and Viscera.**

	DISEASE.	WEIGHT.
2 Cows	Generalized Tuberculosis	975 lbs.
2 Cows	Dropsy and Emaciation	729 "
1 Heifer	Generalized Tuberculosis	497 "
1 Calf	Immaturity	50 "
9 Pigs	Generalized Tuberculosis	1649 "
1 Pig	Jaundice	164 "
1 Pig	Pyæmia	136 "
1 Pig	Extensive bruising	197 "
1 Pig	Septicæmia	184 "
1 Sheep	Severe bruising	82 "
5 Sheep	Dropsy and Emaciation	200 "

**Affected Portions.**

Cows Forequarters	Localised Tuberculosis	466 "
Heifer Forequarters	Localised Tuberculosis	118 "
Beasts Forequarters and Hind Quarters	Bruising	298 "
Beasts Forequarters	Pyæmic Abscesses	74 "
Pigs Forequarters	Localised Tuberculosis	4799 "
Pigs Hindquarters	Localised Tuberculosis	444 "
Pigs Fore and Hind- quarters	Fractures, Bruising etc.	507 "
Pigs Fore and Hind- quarters	Abscesses	64 "
Pigs Strippings	" Diamonds ' (Urticaria)	172 "
95 Beasts Heads	Tuberculosis	1185 "
16 Beasts Heads	Actinomycosis	338 "
201 Beasts Lungs	Tuberculosis	908 "
42 Beasts Lungs	Pleurisy, Pneumonia etc.	203 "
46 Beasts Livers	Tuberculosis	740 "
20 Beasts Livers	Cavernous Angioma	311 "
48 Beasts Livers	Cirrhosis	828 "
37 Beasts Livers	Distoma Hepatica and Echinococcus Veterinorum	501 "
12 Beasts Livers	Abscesses, Fatty Degen- eration, etc.	192 "
6 Beasts Hearts	Pericarditis	18 "
7 Beasts Kidneys	Nephritis, etc.	18 "
2711 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis	35817 "
734 Pigs Plucks	Tuberculosis	4825 "
326 Pigs Plucks	Pleurisy, Pneumonia etc.	2448 "



240 Pigs Livers	Cirrhosis, Congestion		
	Parasitical Cysts etc.	947	"
251 Pigs Hearts	Pericarditis	261	"
86 Pigs Lungs	Pneumonia, Congestion etc.	72	"
45 Pigs Spleens	Tuberculosis etc.	25	"
22 Pigs Kidneys	Nephritis etc.	15	"
101 Sheeps Plucks	Parasitical Cysts, Strong-		
	ylus Rufescens, etc.	277	"
Mesenteries, Stomachs	Tuberculosis, Inflamma-		
etc.	tion, etc.	271	"
Chilled beef	Decomposition	56	"
Fish	Decomposition	52	"
Rabbits	Decomposition	22	"
Fruit & Canned Goods	Decomposition	27	"

TOTAL WEIGHT—28 tons 1 Cwt. 1 Qr. 2 Lbs.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.**

Forty-four applications for the renewal of existing licences and one application for a new licence to slaughter or stun animals under the above Act were granted. One application was refused on the grounds of age.

The undermentioned table shows the amount of diseased meat surrendered at the slaughter house supervised by Major Green, T.D., M.R.C.V.S., to whom I am indebted for the figures shown.

## PIGS ONLY.

Disease.	Number	Portion Destroyed.		
		Head	Portion	Carcase
Measles (Sarcocyst) ...	7	—	—	7
Caries ... ..	12	12	—	—
Swine Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	1
Jaundice ... ..	5	—	—	5
Tuberculosis ... ..	452	447	—	5
Generalized Tuberculosis ...	54	—	—	54
Septic Pneumonia ... ..	5	—	—	5
Acute Gastro-Enteritis ...	2	—	—	2
Putrefaction ... ..	2	—	—	2
Septicæmia ... ..	10	—	—	10
Abscesses ... ..	17	7	6	4
Septic Peritonitis ... ..	6	—	—	6
Dropsy ... ..	10	—	—	10
Bruising and Fractures ...	13	—	2	11
Dead in Truck on arrival ....	34	—	—	4
Miscellaneous Diseases ...	1275	—	1262 (Diseased Pigs' Plucks)	13

## **DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.**

The one farm situated in the district was visited periodically and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

During the year 48 visits were paid to dairies and milkshops and it was found necessary to draw the attention of 3 dairymen to the dirty condition of the premises. The premises were found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

## **REGISTRATION UNDER THE MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS.**

### **A. Retailers.**

Loose Milk	...	...	...	15
Bottled Milk only	...	...	...	101

<b>B. Producers, Dairymen and Wholesalers</b>	...	...	...	12
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## **UNDER THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.**

The following licences under the above order were in force at the beginning of 1938 :—

One Dealer's Retailing license to sell "Tuberculin Tested."

One Dealer's bottling license for "Accredited."

Six Dealer's Retailing licenses to sell "Accredited."

One Pasteuriser's License.

In addition 16 Supplementary licenses were granted for the sale of the following milks :—

Accredited.	Tuberculin Tested.	Pasteurised
5	5	6

## **SAMPLING OF MILK for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, Bacterial Count etc.**

3 Samples of milk were obtained from the one farm situated in the district for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and in each case the result was negative ; in addition the milk was submitted to a sediment test and the sample proved satisfactory.



12 Samples of undesignated milk were obtained and submitted for a Methylene Blue test and for the presence of B. coli. In seven of the samples the milk was found to be unsatisfactory by the Methylene blue test and in 5 samples coliform organisms were present in 1/1000 c.c., thus proving same to be dirty milks. In every case where the milk supply came from outside the district copies of the Analyst's report were forwarded to the district concerned for necessary action by the supervising authority. In two instances the Dairymen in this area were interviewed and suggestions made to ensure a cleaner milk supply.

7 samples of designated milk were also obtained and submitted for a Methylene blue test and for the presence of B. coli and these samples proved to be satisfactory.

7 Samples of pasteurised milk were obtained and submitted for a Phosphatase test and for bacterial count and these were found to be highly satisfactory.

The following table summarises the results of the bacteriological examination of the 29 samples obtained.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

	Total No. of Samples taken	Tubercle Bacilli		Bacteriological Content						Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
		Bacteriological Count per c.c.		Coliform Organisms present in				Under 30,000	Under 100,000	1 c.c.	1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.	1/1000 c.c.
		Neg.	Pos.										
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
<i>Undesignated Milk</i> Loose Milk	10 { 3 7	3						2	4	2	5		
Bottled Milk	5						1	3	1	3	2		
<i>Designated Milk</i> Accredited	5						1	1		4	1		
Tuberculin Tested	2										2		
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	2			2								2	
Pasteurised	5			4	1							5	
TOTALS ...	29	3		6	1		2	6	5	11	8	7	

Samples in columns 7 and 8 are classed as dirty milks.

### FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

Details of Samples taken in TIPTON URBAN DISTRICT during 1937, by the Staffordshire County Council.

Article of Food	Number of Samples	Genuine.	Adulterated
Milk ... ..	35	32	3
General Foods ...	20	18	2

Three samples of milk were found to be slightly deficient in fat. One of the samples of milk was found to be 11% deficient in fat, and proceedings were instituted against the seller who was fined £5 and £1. 11s. 6d., special costs.

Two samples of Calomel Ointment were purchased, but on analysis both samples were found to be Calamine Ointment, apparently due to a mistake on the part of the seller.

### MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS.

#### UNDESIGNATED SAMPLES.

Samples taken as Sold in Sanitary Districts	No. of Samples submitted		Cleanliness				Tuberculous Samples			
	Produced		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory		Produced			
	In County	Out of County	Produced		Produced		In County		Out of County	
			In County	Out of County	In County	Out of County	Sub- mit'd	Pos.	Sub- mit'd	Pos.
TIPTON U.D.C.	5	1	5	1	—	—	4	—	—	—



**SPECIALLY DESIGNATED SAMPLES.****TIPTON U.D.—1937.**

Tuberculin		Tested		Accredited				Pasteurised				T.B.	
Cleanliness		T.B.		Cleanliness		T.B.		Cleanliness		Phos- phatase			
Sat- is.	Un- satis.	Neg.	Pos.	Sat- is.	Un- satis.	Neg.	Pos.	Sat- is.	Un- satis.	Pass- ed.	-Fail ed.	Neg.	Pos.
2	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	2	1	3	—

Also 1 sample taken of " T.T. Pasteurised " Milk. Cleanliness satisfactory. Neg. to Biological Test.

**OVERCROWDING.**

The problem of Overcrowding still remains a serious one in this area and it is pleasing to note that the " appointed day " has now been fixed. If a survey of the district had to be taken at the present time I am afraid that there would be a number of new cases to be recorded as undoubtedly the long period which has elapsed between the original survey and the fixing of the " appointed day " has enabled a number of houses to be occupied in excess of the permitted number. However one must realise that by the Council's vigorous slum clearance action 230 families have been relieved from overcrowding, and this figure will undoubtedly rise rapidly in the near future. The reshuffling of families in Council houses is being carried out but not without opposition from some tenants and one can readily understand this opposition when one bears in mind the "house proud" occupiers who have expended a fair amount of money and labour on their gardens etc., and are forced to remove and commence their labours over again in new surroundings.

The following table is of some interest and a careful study of same will make one readily understand the necessity for better and more adequate housing accommodation.

**TABLE SHOWING OLD AND NEW ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED IN RELIEF OF OVERCROWDING.**

Type of Accommodation in old dwelling house.	Number relieved by slum clearance Action	Number relieved other than by slum clearance	Type of Council house into which displaced families have been rehoused			
			2 bed-room (Non-parlour)	3 bed-room (Non-parlour)	4 Bedroom 868 sq. ft.	4 Bedroom 1041 & 1134 sq. ft.
1 Bedroom and 1 Living Room ...	28	6	4	27	2	1
2 Bedrooms and 1 Living Room ...	42	3	—	32	10	3
2 Bedrooms and 2 Living Rooms ...	8	2	—	1	5	4
3 Bedrooms and 2 Living Rooms ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total ...	79	11	4	60	17	9
	90		90			

**TABLE SHOWING NO. OF OVERCROWDING CASES RELIEVED IN EACH WARD.**

Ward.	No. dealt with by Slum Clearance	No. dealt with other than Slum Clearance	TOTAL
TIPTON GREEN ...	39	2	41
PARK ...	8	1	9
BURNT TREE ...	—	2	2
DUDLEY PORT ...	6	1	7
HORSELEY HEATH ...	1	1	2
TOLL END ...	8	3	11
OCKER HILL ...	10	1	11
TIBBINGTON ...	7	—	7
TOTAL ...	79	11	90



**DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.**

	Council houses	Other houses
<b>Number of houses found to be infested during the year</b> ...	<b>46</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>No. of houses disinfested</b> ...	<b>46</b>	<b>55</b>

Owing to the dangers of treating occupied houses with Hydrogen cyanide gas for the destruction of vermin, disinfection was done by fumigants (Sulphur Dioxide and Cimex blocks) and insectides (Konax and Clymax) and the use of a blow lamp. This method has been found fairly successful as regards Council houses, but is rather a costly one, inasmuch as it needs in many cases the taking down of picture rails, skirting boarding and the stripping of the walls, two or three applications of the fumigant and insecticide and after freeing the house of vermin, the cost of redecoration and repairs. The practice of renewing picture moulding and skirting boarding to houses treated for bug infestation has been discontinued. I would again emphasise the necessity of the Council placing at the disposal of the department a block of 4 houses which could be utilised for temporary accommodation for the families living in vermin infested houses, in order to enable the department to treat a block of two or four unoccupied houses whenever it may be necessary, with either hydrogen cyanide gas or possibly the new "Heavy Naphtha" treatment on account of its being lethal to bugs and harmless to human beings.

During the year the household effects of 528 families were disinfested by means of Hydrocyanic Acid gas making a total of 1490 since the commencement of the scheme. This work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority by means of a Lawson Overttype Van made and fitted with the necessary appurtenances for the purpose and also two gas chambers are utilised at the disinfesting station, but owing to the fact that no steam disinfector is available, bedding treated with gas is not returned until the following day, the Local Authority loaning the necessary bedding required for one night.

The number of houses disinfested during the year by Sulphur Dioxide after cases of infectious disease was 144.

**SCHOOLS.**

During the year a report on the unsuitable sanitary accommodation at one school was submitted to the appropriate Committee. The closets at this school are on the trough system and action is now being taken to install separate closets on the fresh water carriage system. The sanitary accommodation at the remainder of the schools is satisfactory.



## ENTERTAINMENT PLACES.

The cinemas in the district were visited during the year in respect of sanitary accommodation and it was found necessary to draw attention to the insanitary and defective W.C. and urinal accommodation for males in one instance and the inadequate screening of the female W.C. accommodation in another. In both cases the defects were remedied after informal notices from this department.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

A number of complaints were received of smoke and grit nuisance from various works and these were dealt with as circumstances required. Two firms were visited at the end of the year by deputations from the Council and the various ways and means of overcoming the pollution of the atmosphere in these cases are still undergoing consideration. However, one must admit that domestic smoke is the worst offender and it is regrettable to notice the too frequent firing of domestic chimneys in this area.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of Fish Friers on the register at 31st December, 1937 was 46 as against 48 at the end of the previous year.

During the year two premises were closed down and one was demolished under the slum clearance scheme.

Number of applications to establish the trade of Fish Friers during the year ... .. 5

(a) Number approved subject to carrying out the requirements of the Local Authority ... .. 3

(b) Number of applications rejected ... .. 2

47 Shops were inspected necessitating 66 visits and the following work carried out :—

Defective range replaced with modern range	...	3
Drainage reconstructed	... ..	1
Walls and ceilings of shops thoroughly cleansed	...	7
Preparation and storage premises cleansed	... ..	2
Grease trap installed	... ..	1
Floors to shop repaired	... ..	3
Proper receptacles for refuse provided	... ..	1
Adequate ventilation provided	... ..	1

## SHOPS ACTS 1912/1936.

During the year 563 visits were paid to the various shops under the above acts and an appreciable amount of progress made in respect of better and more adequate sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, ventilation etc., where the existing arrangements required alteration. The exhibition of notices and the keeping of records also shows a gratifying improvement.

The advent of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction Act) 1936 has caused a considerable amount of adverse criticism from a number of shopkeepers and the Act is very difficult to administer when one considers the numerous small mixed "huckster" shops situated in the district.

Under Section 2 of the Act a partial exemption order may be made by the Local Authority for the sale of certain commodities if the necessary two-thirds of the shopkeepers affected approve. To ascertain the views of the shopkeepers a vote was taken with the following result :—

Desiring to remain open	...	...	...	135	} 243
Desiring to remain closed	...	...	...	101	
Refusing to give any decision	...	...	...	7	

Seeing that the necessary approval of two-thirds of the shops affected was not given, the Local Authority did not make a partial exemption order.

I must again draw your attention to the repeated complaints from shopkeepers in respect of the practice of selling certain commodities from Council houses. This practice should be entirely prohibited and the terms of tenancy be adhered to.

It was found necessary during the year to prosecute two shopkeepers and one stallholder for infringements of the provisions of the Act in respect of hours of closing.

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

The number of visits paid in respect of caravans totalled 96. Demolition Orders were placed on two vans and the families of seventeen vans which had been dealt with under the Housing Act during the previous year were rehoused in Council houses and the vans were destroyed by fire with the consent of the owners on account of vermin infestation. There are at present only five local families occupying vans in the district, and it is proposed to have these dealt with at an early date.

## **SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.**

At the beginning of the year with the exception of 17 closets on the conservancy system, all the houses, factories and workshops were on the water carriage system. The number at the end of the year was further reduced to fourteen. This was accounted for by reason of the following :—

- (a) Two midden privies abolished by reason of slum clearance action
- (b) One midden privy converted to the fresh water carriage system.

Three waste water closets were also converted to the fresh water carriage system and seven additional water closets provided.

## **CANAL BOATS.**

Forty canal boats were inspected during the year and all were found to be in reasonably good repair, clean and habitable. A complaint note was forwarded to the owner in one case calling attention to overcrowding and the complaint was remedied. More use of the petrol driven boat towing a previously horse drawn boat has however, provided the occupants of these boats with more cabin room on account of one family being in a position to utilise two boats, whereas in the case of horse drawn boats it was generally the rule to find one family to each boat.

No cases of infectious diseases have been discovered and it was not found necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

## **FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS**

The number of visits paid to Factories and Workshops during the year numbered 64 as compared with 72 for the previous year.

Two Notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories drawing attention to sanitary defects in factories and the remaining 16 nuisances in Workshops were observed in the course of routine inspection. Two lists containing two names and addresses of outworkers were received from other Authorities during the year.

The following table gives details of the defects found :—



# ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

A report as to the Inspections made is given below.

## 1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	2	2	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	34	17	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>—</b>

## 2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars  (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted  (5)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	10	10	—	—
Want of ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	3	3	—	—
Sanitary accommodation :				
Insufficient ... ..	1	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	2	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	1	1	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s.101) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	18	18	—	—







